FBIS DAILY REPORT

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'ARAFAT CHALLENGES CARTER IN DAMASCUS IN GRADUATION ADDRESS

JN201900 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1645 GMT 20 Aug 79 JN

[Report on speech delivered by Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, on 19 August at the ceremony marking the graduation of three classes of women strugglers, political and youth cadres in Damascus]

[Text] While the Islamic world is celebrating Palestine and Jerusalem Week in response to our imam and revolutionary, Ayatollah Khomeyni, we are celebrating the graduation of these classes. It is no coincidence that while the Palestinian and Iranian revolutions are coordinating their efforts by regarding the days of 23, 24 and 25 August as the days of Palestine and of the revolutionaries of Palestine in the Arab Islamic world, Carter is sending his envoy, Strauss, the godfather of the autonomy plot, thereby challenging the will of our nation and the will of the Islamic and Palestinian peoples. Carter's envoy said that the U.S. administration must hold out and be firm in the face of Palestinian and Arab pressure and remain committed to the Zionist entity.

Brother Abu 'Ammar explained that the statements made by the envoy of imperialism are part of the great design by the Carter administration to contain the area. Furthermore, these statements are in defiance of our feelings, will and future. However, let all these people know that our people will not be defeated and that the greatness of our people's revolution rests on the fact that they are a fighting people composed of women and men, young and old, and male and female cubs, who are standing side by side and fighting. The wounded man returns to fight in the ranks of this revolution. We have been able to transform these people from refugees to a fighting, revolutionary people leading this revolution. Therefore, I can say that the outcome of Strauss' new activity to persuade As-Sadat and Begin of their new plan will only be failure.

I recall that before the two Baghdad conferences, in which the Palestinian revolution played a leading role, Brzezinski was acting with a free hand in the area, thinking that no decisions would be made against their conspiratorial line. The decisions of the two Baghdad conferences came as a decisive reply to the plot. Afterwards, the United States began its counteroffensive in several directions.

The first was aimed against the oilfields, by bringing the Seventh Fleet to the Arab Gulf, while the Sixth Fleet came to the east in the direction of our coasts. A new fleet was established and was called the Fifth Fleet, with its headquarters [words indistinct] in the Indian Ocean. They cordoned off the area with three fleets. They carried out military activities by hinting at the use of force through the 84th Division, which consists of 30,000 American soldiers, and through bringing in 110,000 soldiers from Europe. These were all trained for military action in the oilfields area.

The second direction of the U.S. counteroffensive was toward our occupied areas, in order to pacify our people and make them kneel. However, our people were a time bomb which exploded in the face of the Camp David sides. The greatness of our people's uprising and steadfastness in the face of the plot rests in the fact that it was our people who were the first to say no and to resist the autonomy plot. The cubs of this great, heroic people are going out to fight Zionist tanks and armored vehicles with stones. You all remember the battle with stones which our male and female cubs waged for 6 months. Yes, they fought the battle of stones in all the occupied areas against Zionist tanks and ugly Zionist repression.

The third direction of the enemies' attack is the fighting in eastern Beirut, in an attempt to pressure us by creating many problems for us, for Syria and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement.

The fourth direction is in the axis of confrontation in southern Lebanon, where the revolution's forces are standing alongside the forces of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement.

Brother Abu 'Ammar asserted that the U.S. counteroffensive is not aimed at pressure or at insinuating the use of force to create problems, but is a decision of annihilation.

This decision was made by the Zionist Cabinet. Today we are hearing nothing but threats against the Palestinian people and fighters from the U.S.-Israeli alliance. We are neither afraid of threats nor care about them.

Brother leader Abu 'Ammar added: This revolution can threaten but cannot be threatened. The revolution, which has been facing a war of attrition day and night since 9 March, in which all weapons are being used on the land, air and sea, and particularly internationally prohibited U.S. weapons, understands the reasons for this war of annihilation.

Brother leader Abu 'Ammar reviewed the details of the heroic battles of steadfastness in the 8-day war in southern Lebanon. We exposed the lies and blunderings of the enemy at the beginning of the days of fighting. He asserted that the abortive campaign of annihilation which the enemy unleashed against our forces inflicted enormous casualties and material losses on the enemy. The enemy admitted a part of these casualties and losses in the Zionist newspaper HA'AREZ and the U.S. TIME magazine, which asserted that in one effort alone the enemy sent in 41 tanks and lost all of them. This information was leaked from reports submitted to the Knesset.

Brother Abu Ammar added: The enemy is now talking about a new battle. They call it the Litani II operation. I will tell you now what the heroes of (?As-Sus) Fortress said yesterday. This lofty fortress reminds me of Saladdin's victories. Since 9 March, some 2,500 shells have been fired daily at this fortress. The heroes of (?As-Sus) Fortress told me that we will continue to fight them with all the high morale and enthusiasm that characterizes the spirit of our people and nation. We will not allow them to pass. This is the revolutionary will by which we are challenging Carter and his two agents, Begin and As-Sadat. [passage indistinct] I say there is no power that can crush this revolution's will.

The brother leader continued: I recall that on the day I bade farewell to my brother and comrade, martyr Zhuhayr Muhsin, I graduated well over 2,500 male and female cubs. I saw victory in their eyes, as I see it in your eyes now. This is the nature of our generous, bountiful people. Every time a hero or a knight falls, a thousand heroes and knights appear to replace those who fell, in order to continue on the path of revolution. [Word indistinct] Palestinian blood has not stopped flowing for 15 years. This is the meaning of victory. Several days ago, a senior colleague employed as an engineer in Kuwait came to me after his son was martyred in southern Lebanon. His wife told me: I am proud. My son who was martyred has another brother and three sisters. The daughters are enough for me, but this brother will complete his mission. This is the spirit of bountiful giving and it is the spirit of our people by which we are challenging Carter, Begin and As-Sadat.

Al-Mu'tazz and his father and mother exemplify our people. We are proud of woman commander Dalal, the first Arab woman commander, who was able to prevent enemy movement in our occupied areas between Haifa and Tel Aviv. I challenge the Israelis with those who are penetrating the enemy's security and are proving that the enemy's theory of security is false by their loftiness and revolutionary bounty.

Our fighters who are holding out in southern Lebanon in the face of the war of annihilation are inscribing the history of their Arab nation and are deciding this history. We are not afraid of Carter or Begin. Their threats and clamor are only shouting by those who are afraid. We are not afraid. It is others who are afraid.

Brother leader Abu 'Ammar also spoke about the counteroffensive the Palestinian revolution is launching on a wide scale and [word indstinct] against the enemy in the various parts of occupied Palestine. He said that enemy is using 111,000 men of its forces to confront the intensive operations of our fighters.

He said: It is no coincidence that Mustafa Khalil--and I regret that he is an Arab, because he is a trumpet for the Zionists and imperialists--told the revolution that if it would stop its armed operations against the Zionist enemy, in return the Zionist aggression which the enemy is unleashing daily with U.S. weapons against our forces in southern Lebanon would end. Our reply and our revolutionaries' reply to him were three heroic military operations in the occupied areas in 1 day.

We are implementing a military offensive inside the occupied areas. Here in southern Lebanon, we are facing the war of annihilation with great moral and military steadfastness. We are implementing a political counteroffensive and counterpenetration, as reflected in my meeting with Kriesky and Abu al-Lutf's meeting with Poncet in Paris. We are reaping the fruits of the victories we have won with the flow of blood, which has not stopped for a moment. Carter says impudently: I do not approve of a Palestinian state. I would like to ask him: Who told you, Carter, that we are waiting to gain the state by way of treason. We will establish our Palestinian state with our martyrs, revolutionaries and guns. We will establish our state whether Carter wants it or not, whether Begin wants it or not. This revolution exists only for victory. We achieve our victories with the flow of blood; we do not want our Palestinian state as anyone's charity.

Brother leader Abu 'Ammar added: I recall, brothers, that when I met with Commrade Giap in 1970 I told him: I am happy to meet the greatest commander of the greatest revolution in the 20th century. Comrade Giap replied: We consider the Palestinian revolution [words indistinct] in the 20th century. As for us, we had the Chinese wall and the Soviet wall behind us. You, however, are undertaking a revolution in the most dangerous spot in the world: The site of the oilfields.

Therefore, we tell all our enemies that this revolution cannot be defeated. If they want to destroy the temple, we will bring it down on their heads. Those who threaten to occupy the oilfields must understand and realize that if the oilfields' owners do not burn them, the Palestinian revolution will. Everyone should understand this. Carter must understand that he cannot threaten us. When Carter meets with the fascist clique in order to force the giant, Andrew Young, to resign after his meeting with the PLO representative--this while Young was president of the current Security Council session and had the right to meet with all sides involved in the dispute--they merely prove that they are not even honest in the United Nations. Therefore, I tell, Carter that he cannot threaten us.

Brother Abu 'Ammar continued: Though the greatness of a revolution cannot be measured only by the friends this revolution has, we do have many friends. Nevertheless, the greatness of a revolution should also be measured by the strength of its enemies. We are a member of the nonalined movement and a member of the nonalined Coordinating Bureau. Our representative was elected as one of the seven cochairmen of the nonalined movement, which consists of 92 states. Our representative was elected as deputy chairman. This has never happened in any revolution. In 1974, we opened the door by which all liberation movements could enter the United Nations. We did not achieve these victories freely, but by a stream of blood and sacrifices. Small victories collectively become a great victory.

Brothers, I can tell you a lot about the friends of our revolution and people and about our stature with our friends in the socialist, African, Latin American, Asian and Islamic countries. I can also tell you a lot about our stature in the Arab League, where we are playing an effective role, although we have no state and our homeland is occupied.

Nevertheless, we are the basic and most difficult figure in the equation of struggle in the Middle East. I challenge Carter, Begin and all our enemies to try to bypass the Palestinian figure. There can be no stability, peace, conciliation or solution by bypassing the Palestinian figure. Whether or not Carter likes it, this is the will of the Palestinian revolution. This is the will of the revolutionary fighting guns. Let everyone understand this equation. I reiterate that the greatness of a revolution cannot be measured only by the friends this revolution has, but by its enemies' strength as well. The more enemies a revolution has, the greater the revolution can prove itself to be. We are challenging world imperialism, under U.S. leadership, and we are challenging world Zionism and its entity, which is usurping our homeland, Palestine. I challenge this entire imperialist-Zionist alliance and its agents in the Arab area.

Brother leader Abu 'Ammar concluded his speech to the Fatah movement cadres by saying: I see that Jerusalem will be liberated as clearly I see you before me. However, our road is long and difficult. This revolution has never retreated in its struggle, even when minefields were placed in its way. This revolution will always raise our Arab nation's banner and will always express the will of all free men, noble men and revolutionaires throughout the world. Our revolution has a Palestinian face, an Arab heart and international roots and dimensions. It will continue until victory!

PALESTINIAN COMMAND MEETS UNDER 'ARAFAT 18 AUG

JN190752 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 19 Aug 79 JN

[Text] The Palestinian Command held a meeting under leader Abu 'Ammar last night. Recent developments on the Palestinian, Arab and international levels were discussed. The Palestinian Command underlined the need for strong national unity to confront the barbaric imperialist-Zionist-As-Sadat onslaught against the Palestinian revolution and the Palestinian people's struggle. During the meeting, it was also decided that Brother Abu Mahir al-Yamani will represent the PFLP on the PLO Executive Committee. Brothers Khalid al-Hasan, alias Abu as-Sa'id, and Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu Mazin, Fatah Central Committee members, will also join the PLO Executive Committee. The membership of those brothers on the PLO Executive Committee will soon be confirmed during a special session of the Palestine National Council.

VOP: NO NEW MEMBERS DECIDED FOR PLO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

JN191840 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1745 GMT 19 Aug 79 JN

[Text] A responsible source in the Palestinian revolution has declared the following: Contrary to what was reported by some local newspapers this morning, the Palestinian Command did not mention any names to be added to the PLO Executive Committee at yesterday's meeting, during which it discussed organizational and national unity subjects.

'ARAFAT ATTENDS FATAH CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING 19 AUG

JN191659 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 19 Aug 79 JN

[Text] The Fatah Central Committee held a meeting at noon today. The meeting was attended by brother Abu 'Ammar, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces. Our correspondent has learned that the meeting tackled the present situation in light of the continued Israeli aggressions against southern Lebanon.

PNC CHAIRMAN AL-FAHUM ON AMENDMENT OF 242

JN191254 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 19 Aug 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait--Palestine National Council Chairman Khalid al-Fahum has denied that the PLO is a party to efforts to amend UN Security Council Resolution 242, which recognizes the legitimacy of the existence of the Zionist entity. In a statement to the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS published today, Al-Fahum said that the PLO will discuss any resolution issued by the Security Council different from Resolution 242 provided that it deals with the Palestine issue as an issue of people struggling to regain their national rights.

Al-Fahum said that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat might pay a visit to Jordan soon to discuss with King Husayn ways to develop and coordinate Jordanian-Palestinian cooperation in all fields.

PLO REPORTEDLY NOT INTERESTED IN SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION

LD181552 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0715 GMT 18 Aug 79 LD

[Excerpt] Kuwait--A Kuwaiti paper today attributes to an unnamed senior Palestinian source a statement that the PLO has no desire to submit a draft resolution containing recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people to the UN Security Council in its meeting to be held this coming Thursday. The source told AL-ANBA' that the Palestinian Central Council which met in Damascus last week was unanimous in "washing its hands" of American policy and not opening a dialog with Washington because its policy "is biased, hostile and does not accept any fundamental or serious modifications vis-a-vis the rights of the Palestinian people."

The source considers the resignation of U.S. delegate Andrew Young from his post as his country's ambassador to the United Nations because he had a meeting last month with the Palestinian UN observer at the UN, Zuhdi at-Tarazi, "a significant gain" for the Palestinian question.

He stated that the Central Council has decided not to apply pressure for submission of the draft resolution--an amended form of Resolution 242--to the Security Council and instead to transfer the case to the UN General Assembly to be held next month.

WORKING GROUPS ON AUTONOMY RESUME MEETINGS

NC201615 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 20 Aug 79 NC

[Text] The Egyptian, U.S. and Israeli working groups today resumed their meetings at the St Stephens Hotel in Alexandria to discuss the preliminary steps related to the topics that will be discussed by the heads of delegations concerning Palestinian autonomy. These topics were recently agreed upon during the Haifa conference and are related to the special arrangements for elections in the West Bank and Gaza and the powers of the government that would be elected.

A responsible source told the radio correspondent that a report on the results reached during the talks will be submitted to the ministerial meeting that will be held within the third round of the autonomy talks scheduled to start in Alexandria on 9 September. The working groups are scheduled to start in Alexandria on 9 September. The working groups are scheduled to continue their meetings tomorrow.

GHALI ON UN RESOLUTION, TRIPARTITE SUMMIT

NC201936 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 20 Aug 79 NC

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has stated that during his visit to New York which is due to start on 23 August, he will meet with the head of the Egyptian delegation to the United Nations, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, to discuss the Egyptian strategy concerning efforts aimed at issuing a UN Security Council resolution on the Middle East. Dr Ghali said that Egypt supports a resolution by the UN Security Council that will bolster the efforts for a durable and just peace in the Middle East.

Asked to comment on the U.S. President's remark that he does not intend to hold a tripartite summit conference, Dr Butrus Ghali said he did not know whether the U.S. envoy had conveyed such a suggestion to Cairo. He added: What is important is to continue the efforts for peace and the continuation of the negotiations--whether these efforts are made on the level of experts, ministers or summit conferences. Dr Ghali said that all of these levels have one aim; namely, to overcome the obstacles so as to enable the Palestinian people to play their part. He added that this is the goal toward which Egypt is striving.

VOICE OF ARABS ON COOPERATION WITH STRAUSS

LD181412 Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic 1130 GMT 18 Aug 79 LD

[Hasan ash-Shura commentary]

[Text] It is evident now that the U.S. role in the talks on Palestinian autonomous rule is passing through a critical period because of the difficulties it is facing in its dealing with Israel. It is to overcome these difficulties that Robert Strauss, envoy of the U.S. President to the region, has embarked on his tour, which he began by visiting Israel and holding talks with Begin. He then came to Cairo in an attempt to find a way out of the impasse facing these talks.

It is no longer a secret that the talks are facing difficulties that could lead to a dead end. Israel has intentionally sought to lead the talks to such a conclusion for numerous reasons, particularly because of its fear of the growing U.S. role, which made it imperative for the United States to make difficult decisions from the standpoint of its principles, objectives and ambitions.

In order to avert this situation, which was bound to come even temporarily, Israel has intentionally created a crisis between itself and the U.S. administration, seizing more than one opportunity to help it escalate the crisis and camouflage its stubborn stand at the autonomous rule talks, thereby giving itself the opportunity to maneuver and dodge the inevitable confrontation at the talks and to finally extricate itself from its commitments and pledges under the framework of peace reached at Camp David.

With the conclusion of the first round of Strauss' talks in Israel and the exposition of the Israeli intentions, it has become evident how difficult is the task the U.S. envoy has embarked upon. Hence it is important that Egypt should cooperate with the U.S. role in finding a way out of the impasse and the difficult road into which Israel is trying to push us.

Israel's primary objective is to shake the nerves of the Egyptian negotiator and make him lose all hope for achieving any progress, thereby forcing him to wash his hands of the task he is performing in the interest of the Palestinian people's cause. Israel would then claim to the world that it was not the one that brought about the failure of the autonomous rule talks, using for the purpose all means open to it to deceive world public opinion.

This is not something new for Israel. The Zionist information media are all there to serve it. They can reverse the facts and find a way out for Israel and exonerate it of all blame for the failure of the peace talks.

By virtue of its direct and indirect dealing with Israel, Egypt is fully aware of the dimensions of the Israeli game and the difficulties that are bound to face the autonomous rule talks. Egypt knows that Israel will not give in easily and will not move along the road leading to the attainment of Palestinian rights voluntarily and with free will.

Egypt is taking all eventualities reckoned or not reckoned by Israel into consideration. For this reason, Egypt will not give Israel the opportunity to attain its objective and find a way out of the impasse. Egypt will not deal with Robert Strauss, the personal envoy of U.S. President Jimmy Carter and head of the U.S. delegation to the autonomous rule talks, in the manner Israel deals with him. Egypt will give him all cooperation possible and will be so flexible as to force the United States to respond to it and to do all it can to enable the talks to reach their objective. Egypt will not help Israel keep the United States away from the talks and prevent it from playing its role as a full partner.

Egypt knows well that without America's role and influence, it will achieve nothing. There is nothing Israel would like more than to see the United States wash its hands, abandon its role and relinquish its pledges.

The only way to thwart these attempts by Israel is for Egypt to cooperate with the United States to enable the autonomous rule talks to attain their objectives and to overcome the difficulties in the way of achieving any tangible progress and not to give the opportunity to any side to abandon the commitments it has made. Through such cooperation, Egypt gives the United States the opportunity to play its role in attaining a durable, comprehensive peace for all the peoples of the area and for the whole world.

AL-JUMHURIYAH COMMENTS ON U.S.-ISRAELI RELATIONS

NC200757 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0710 GMT 20 Aug 79 NC

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the heading "Who Triumphs in This Battle," the newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH discusses Israeli pressures to foil the adoption by the Security Council of a resolution providing for the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination. AL-JUMHURIYAH expresses the belief that the battle is now between the U.S. will, which reflects a general world trend believing in the legitimate rights of the Palestinians, and the Israeli will, which wants to obstruct the U.S. move by various means and all kinds of pressure.

AL-JUMHURIYAH concludes its editorial by saying that if this sensitive battle primarily concerns the Palestinians, it also considerably concerns the prestige of U.S. policy and of the U.S. decision and its independence.

AS-SADAT MEETS WITH RELIGIOUS LEADERS IN ISMAILIA

NC210713 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 21 Aug 79 NC

[Excerpts] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat met in Ismailia last night with the men of religion and propagation of Islam, thinkers and professors of Al-Azhar University, within the series of meetings his excellency is holding with various communities of the people.

The meeting was held at the president's resthouse in Ismailia. It was attended by Vice President Husni Mubarak; Al-Azhar rector his eminence the grand imam, Dr 'Abd ar-Rahman Bisar; People's Assembly Speaker Dr Sufi Abu Talib; and the deputy prime minister at the presidency, Hasan at-Tuhami. It was also attended by Awqaf Minister Dr 'Abd al-Mun'im an-Nimr; the mufti of the republic, His Eminence Shaykh Jad al-Haq 'Ali Jad al-Haq; and Minister of State for the Presidency Mansur Hasan.

During this meeting the president reviewed the building of Egypt in the coming stage and the new constitutional amendments. President as-Sadat also spoke about the spirit of love and tolerance which prevails in Egypt, which is considered an island of love, security and safety in the area.

President as-Sadat then conducted a comprehensive democratic dialog with the men of religion on the issues of building Egypt--a state with a cultural and religious history--which is being rebuilt on the basis of science and faith. President as-Sadat listened to the opinions of the men of religion on constitutional amendments.

Further Details

NC210923 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 21 Aug 79 NC

[Text] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has met with the men of religion and Islamic thought in Egypt as part of his series of meetings with the various sectors of the people. During the meeting President as-Sadat spoke about the role and message of Al-Azhar in defending Islam, not only in Egypt but all over the Islamic world. He said that Islam has been and still is a revolution in every sense of the word.

He said: We have many problems, such as housing and food. We are trying to solve these problems. However, we will only be able to triumph in the challenging battle with a new structure for Egypt built by the hands of its sons and by their belief in their country. The most important battle we are facing today is the building of Egypt with the most modern means of the age. We are beginning where others have ended.

President as-Sadat announced that religion will be a basic subject in school from the primary to the university stage beginning in the coming school year. The national history and the basic values of Egypt will be taught to students.

President as-Sadat proposed the formation of a higher Islamic council in which Islamic societies would be represented. It would constitute a family council in which all matters will be discussed with complete frankness.

President as-Sadat affirmed that there is no religion in politics and there is no politics in religion, and the state will not be tolerant of any deviating person who toys with religion. We will strike at this deviation, and you will strike at it by your good behavior, he said. President as-Sadat added that the detention camps will not be reopened. Martial law has not been applied so far, although it exists. Freedom will not be exploited.

President as-Sadat then spoke about the Arab homeland. He said that he was the one who called for the Islamic conference in Morocco. He asked King Hassan II of Morocco to hold an Islamic conference in Morocco to discuss the issue of Jerusalem. Neither the king of Morocco nor the Saudis can deny this, he said. I called for the convening of this Islamic conference in an official message addressed to the king of Morocco, and I will request that it be published immediately. The president added: The king of Morocco conspired with Saudi Arabia and the rejectionist elements to prevent the Egyptian delegation from attending this Islamic conference because they feared the presence of the Egyptian delegation and were afraid that the delegation would tell them: We are the patrons of this conference and we are the ones who called for it. The matter ended with the suspension of Egypt's membership, in its absence, from this Islamic conference through bribery by Saudi Arabia of some Arab states and through the use of pressure as a courtesy to Saudi Arabia. However, the African Islamic states denounced this and expressed their disagreement with it.

President as-Sadat asked: Does the suspension of Egypt's membership cancel what Al-Azhar has done for 1,000 years to safeguard Islam? Does the suspension of Egypt's membership cancel Egypt's role and the fact that it is the direction to which all Muslims turn after Mecca? Never. This will not cancel Egypt's role. We tell the whole world that we are aware of our Islamic responsibility and our Islamic role. We are aware of it and all Islamic peoples in Africa and Asia and many Arab peoples are aware of it. Many Arab peoples are not satisfied with the behavior of their rulers, who have done this only out of hatred for Egypt and for its achievements. The president asked: What brought up the question of Egypt's Islamic role in such stupidities resorted to by Saudi Arabia and those who followed its footsteps, such as Morocco? [sentence as heard]

A dialog then followed between President as-Sadat and the men of religion in which they dealt with a recommendation to build Egypt through honest behavior, care for the youth, and the nonexploitation of the people so that the structure would be lofty and the banners of peace would fly over Egypt.

President Anwar as-Sadat will meet this evening with representatives of the cinema and music workers unions. This meeting will be the last during the month of Ramadan. His excellency will resume these meetings immediately after the blessed 'Id al-Fitr.

ROSE AL-YUSUF: W. EUROPEAN STATE MAY SPONSOR RESOLUTION

NC190950 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0845 GMT 19 Aug 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 19 August--In tomorrow's edition ROSE AL-YUSUF magazine discusses the results of the current diplomatic contacts among New York, Washington, Cairo and Tel Aviv regarding the international efforts to amend UN Security Council Resolution 242 of 1967, the acceptance of which by the PLO has become a basic condition for moving the current secret talks between Washington and leaders of the Palestinian resistance, including the PLO, into the public and consequently to beginning a U.S.-Palestinian dialog leading to actual participation in the next efforts for a peaceful solution. These contacts have revealed that it will be unrealistic to amend Resolution 242, which represents the basis of all peaceful solutions of the Middle East question and certainly of the Camp David documents and the peace treaty. They have also revealed that it will not be possible to amend the disputed clause on the Palestinian people, which discusses the rights of the Palestinian people as refugees.

Therefore, the present inclination is to ask the Security Council through one or more member states to issue a new resolution confirming Resolution 242 and outlining the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, stressing at the same time that it is an annex to Resolution 242.

The magazine says that the current contacts among West European capitals might result in one or more West European capitals sponsoring a new draft resolution, to be presented to the Security Council in September before the General Assembly session and following the sixth nonalined states summit in Havana.

CAIRO RADIO COMMENTS ON ANDREW YOUNG RESIGNATION

NC171644 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Aug 79 NC

[Fawzi Surur commentary: "Hurdle Race in a Minefield"]

[Text] The various reactions, both on the international and U.S. levels, to the resignation of Andrew Young, the U.S. envoy to the United Nations, reveal extremely important facts regarding the developments related to the issue of the establishment of peace in the Middle East. Through the prominence the resignation of Andrew Young has assumed, we can learn the directions of the various indicators of Middle East events.

If we begin with the resigned U.S. diplomat himself, the first thing of interest is that he is a unique U.S. diplomat who acts with great freedom and perhaps with rebellion against the traditional norms of U.S. diplomacy. He may have caused some embarrassment to the U.S. amdinistration during his time at the United Nations, but Young's actions in the international diplomatic arena undoubtedly proved that they came from an experienced person in this field. This is natural in view of the qualifications Young enjoys, which no one can say are in contradiction to the supreme U.S. interests. Being a black American, he enjoys respect and appreciation from those at home and abroad, particularly in Africa, and from oppressed people whose rights have been usurped such as the Palestinians.

For this reason, no one can initially specify the extent of the loss that befell the U.S. administration because of its submission to Israeli and Zionist pressures to get rid of him and people like him who take such logical and reasonable stands in dealing with urgent international problems--foremost of which is the issue of peace and of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people to independence, sovereignty and a homeland, which no one denies except the Tel Aviv leaders and the Zionist pressure groups in the U.S. Congress, which have a great deal of control over the fiber of U.S. political life.

The aims of such actions are no longer a secret, coming whenever there are signs of a relaxation in the crisis involved in finding both a settlement of the Middle East problem and a reasonable and honorable formula to solve the Arab-Israeli conflict.

It has become absolutely clear that the aim of such subversive policies is extortion to secure further gains and concessions. Since the issue of peace in the Middle East cannot become a game in the marketplace of political outbiddings, the efforts for a genuine peace to face these real dangers are intensifying.

The world has become increasingly convinced at this particular stage that the search for the missing peace must be directed toward reinforcing the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, and any expected new draft Security Council resolution must recognize this.

Andrew Young, the U.S. diplomat who was forced to resign from his post, was one of the people who upheld this. The proof is that after the announcement of his resignation, he stated that in his capacity as president of the Security Council he would meet with representatives of the PLO, the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. It was imperative for Young to leave and take his views and convictions with him, because he undoubtedly represented a danger to the enemies of peace, who are only concerned about achieving their selfish aims, even at the expense of the real interests of the establishment of peace, of the recognition of the inalienable rights of all parties, and at the expense of the United States and the prestige of the administration itself--which, it seems clear, did not take into account the international and national diplomatic importance of Andrew Young.

Amid this fabricated clamor, there is talk about U.S.-Israeli relations having reached their lowest point in 3 years; about efforts being made to contain the tension that has resulted from this situation; and about Israel's intelligence activity, the stubborness of its leaders, its blackmail and its feverish attempts to resist any signs that the U.S. administration may support the PLO's participation in the talks on autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza and on self-determination for the Palestinian people.

This is a basic development in the Middle East situation that should be understood by all those concerned and interested in the establishment of peace in this hot area, in which the degree of tension and inflamation is increasing because of these dangerous actions by Israel. Unless the Tel Aviv leaders give up their obsolete conventional concepts, these danger signs will continue to exist and accumulate day after day against the background of the fact that the process of including the Palestinians in a comprehensive Middle East settlement has become something like a hurdle race in a minefield.

AL-JUMHURIYAH Comment

NC180717 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0645 GMT 18 Aug 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 August--AL-JUMHURIYAH comments today on the resignation of Andrew Young, the chief U.S. delegate to the United Nations, and the political explosion it has caused inside the United States and Israel on the basis that it is one of the effects of the Egyptian peace initiative on the Palestinian question.

The paper says: Since the peace initiative, President as-Sadat has introduced the Palestinian question to every American mind and home and imposed this question on the establishments and organs which participate in making U.S. political decisions. It adds: Had the crisis caused by Young's resignation occurred a few years ago, it would not have had such an effect. The U.S. delegate would have hesitated a lot before contacting an official representative of the PLO, and if such a contact had taken place the delegate would have disappeared from the political scene and his conduct would have disgraced him forever.

AL-JUMHURIYAH goes on: However, since the peace initiative, Young's resignation has become an issue occupying U.S. public opinion. This means that the Palestinian question has become an internal U.S. issue that arouses the feelings and minds of the people, whereas in the past the Americans thought and felt the way Zionist propaganda media wanted.

In conclusion, the paper says: If this change in U.S. public opinion is the only effect of the Egyptian peace initiative, it is credit enough for it to have caused this change in a citadel where everybody except us did as he pleased while the doors were shut in our face.

ATTORNEY GENERAL STATEMENT ON COMMUNIST ORGANIZATION

NC182057 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1830 GMT 18 Aug 79 NC

[Text of statement issued by Egyptian attorney general]

[Text] Cairo, 18 August--On 24 July 1979, the state security investigation authorities reported to the state security prosecution department that certain communist leaders were engaged in organized, hostile activity within the framework of the secret party called the "Egyptian Communist Party," and that these leaders were strengthening this organization with new elements and issuing the party's leaflets.

Surveillance authorized by the attorney general's office revealed that this party had a Central Committee and an organizational structure; that it held organizational meetings and indoctrination courses; that its members had codenames; and that it had a technical branch and typewriters on which its three publications were prepared: "AL-INTISAR," "AL-WA'Y," and "AL-ARD WALFALLAH" ["VICTORY," "CONSCIOUSNESS," and "LAND AND THE PEASANT"].

The state security investigation authorities' report pointed out that this organization has a foreign branch with elements centered in London, Paris and West Berlin who issue the party's publications abroad, which are "AL-INTISAR," "AL-YASAR AL-'ARABI," and "AWRAQ DIMUQRATIYAH" ["VICTORY," "THE ARAB LEFT," and "DEMOCRATIC PAPERS"]. These elements also write in some antiregime publications published abroad, such as the 23 JULY magazine and AL-HAQIQAH [THE TRUTH].

This is done in addition to their hostile propaganda and organizational activity that is carried out in various organizational forms under such names as the "Grouping of National Democratic Egyptians" in Paris, "Egyptian Club" in West Berlin, and the "Progressive Egyptian National Democratic Movement" in London.

The report stated that the leaders of this party were in contact with some embassies and organizations hostile to the regime and received financial support from them to carry out their activity; that it used an apartment as an organizational headquarters for the technical staff; that it held educational courses; and that it used some commercial enterprises, such as the bookstores Dar ath-Thaqafah al-Jadidah and Manhal ath-Thaqafah, as a source for financing its activities and educating its cadres.

The report also stated that investigations have confirmed that this organization aims, through its movement and activity, to topple the existing regime and establish a communist regime.

Using legal means, the state security investigation authorities were able to seize many organizational documents, such as party publications, statements, leaflets and the party statutes. A handwriting analysis and comparison showed that some of these documents were written by some of the leaders of this organization. The investigation authorities were able to take pictures of many organizational meetings, which included leaders and members of this organization; pictures of some of the organizational tasks of its members; and pictures of the organizational headquarters of the party. A voice recording of one of the organizational meetings was also made.

The report concluded by requesting permission to arrest and search the leaders and members of this organization and their places of work and residence.

On 24 July 1979, the president of the state security prosecution department issued arrest and search warrants for the leaders and members of the Egyptian Communist Party. Several members of the department arrested and searched a number of leaders of this organization on 16 August 1979. The search resulted in the seizure of many organizational documents, hostile leaflets, printing machines and tools, and papers pertaining to the party's internal and financial organizations. The state security prosecution department is continuing its investigations, which have so far covered 56 defendants, including six lawyers, four journalists, a former member of the People's Assembly, and some students and workers. The prosecution has ordered that they be remanded in custody.

The investigation is still continuing under the direction of the attorney general, counsellor Salah ar-Rashidi.

ALGERIA'S YAHIAOUI ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD

JN201206 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1040 GMT 20 Aug 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 20 August--Mohamed Salah Yahiaoui, Politburo member and executive coordinator of the Algerian National Liberation Front, arrived here at noon today as personal envoy of Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid to President Saddam Husayn.

Envoy Yahiaoui stated that he will convey a message to President Saddam Husayn from his brother President Bendjedid. He added that the message deals with relations between the two countries and developments in Arab and international affairs. He said he will hold talks with Iraqi officials on various issues of interest to the two countries. The Algerian envoy's visit to Baghdad is part of his current Arab tour.

Received by Husayn

JN201252 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 20 Aug 79 JN

[Text] In his office at noon today, President Saddam Husayn received Mohamed Salah Yahiaoui, Politburo member and executive coordinator of the Algerian National Liberation Front. During the meeting, Yahiaoui conveyed greetings from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. He also conveyed a verbal message to President Saddam Husayn from his brother President Bendjedid. The message deals with the current Arab situation, bilateral relations and ways of strengthening them.

The meeting was attended by Na'im Haddad, RCC member and deputy prime minister; Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, foreign minister; and the Algerian ambassador in Baghdad.

Departs, Makes Statement

JN201646 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 20 Aug 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 20 August--Mohamed Salah Yahiaoui, Politburo member, executive coordinator of the Algerian National Liberation Front and personal envoy of Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid to President Saddam Husayn, left Baghdad this afternoon at the end of a short visit to Iraq.

In a predeparture statement, Yahiaoui said that during the visit he conveyed a verbal message from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid to his brother President Saddam Husayn on bilateral relations and the latest developments on the Arab and international levels.

DEPUTY PREMIER RECEIVES GREEK INDUSTRY MINISTER 20 AUG

JN201635 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1620 GMT 20 Aug 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 20 August--Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Transport and Communications Sa'dun Ghaydan met here today with Greek Industry and Energy Minister Miltiadhis Evert. They reviewed ways to strengthen bilateral cooperation in transport and communications.

The Greek minister arrived here the day before yesterday and has held a series of meetings with Iraqi officials aimed at strengthening joint cooperation in various spheres.

PALESTINIAN DELEGATION CONCLUDES VISIT TO AMMAN

JN181511 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1330 GMT 18 Aug 79 JN

[Text] Amman, 18 August--A Palestinian delegation ended a 4-day visit to Jordan during which it held talks with 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, Jordanian information minister and head of the Executive Bureau for Occupied Territories Affairs, and other top bureau officials on ways to support the steadfastness of the occupied territories' citizens.

Mahmud 'Abbas, Fatah Central Committee member and member of the Palestinian side in the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee, said the talks are a continuation of the joint committee's activities to carry out the program on the steadfastness of the citizens in the occupied territories.

Mahmud 'Abbas stressed that many people with bad intentions and dubious connections are annoyed by the progress of the joint committee's work, which is aimed at supporting our people in the occupied territories. Those people are working to obstruct and put an end to this work. He accused the United States of stirring up trouble in the Arab world in order to distract the Arab **states** with petty issues and destroy Arab solidarity so that it will be easy to impose capitulatory solutions in the region.

He praised the change in Europe's position on the Palestinian issue. He said: Europe has begun to understand gradually that peace will not be established in the Middle East unless the Palestinian people are given their legitimate rights.

Mahmud 'Abbas also stressed the importance and gravity within the coming months for the Palestinian issue. He said: We have a year of confrontation and suffering ahead of us. If we survive them, all conspiracies and capitulatory plans will fail.

JOINT DELEGATION TO TOUR NORTH AFRICAN STATES

JN191421 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 19 Aug 79 p 2 JN

[Text] Amman 18 Aug (J.T.)--Arrangements have been made for a joint Jordanian-Palestinian joint delegation to make a tour of North Africa's Arab states to seek aid for Palestinians under Israeli occupation.

Announcing this today at the end of a 4-day meeting here of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee for supporting the steadfastness of Palestinians under occupation, a Palestinian spokesman, Mr Mahmud 'Abbas, said the delegation will go to Libya, Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco, where they will meet with government officials for talks on supporting a Palestinian fund set up at the Baghdad summit conference.

Mr 'Abbas, who is also a member of the Palestinian Fatah movement, described an earlier tour of Arab Gulf states by a Jordanian-Palestinian joint committee as highly successful both politically and financially.

Mr 'Abbas said the main purposes of granting aid to Palestinians in the occupied territories are to provide them with the means of acquiring basic services, to discourage emigration and to make it unnecessary for almost 120,000 Arab labourers to continue working in Israeli factories.

VOL REPORTS ISRAELI AIR RAID ON SOUTH 20 AUG

NC201545 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1515 GMT 20 Aug 79 NC

[Text] At 1610 today a formation of Israeli warplanes attacked Palestinian and Leftist positions in the areas of Al-Mu'alliyah and Ra's al-'Ayn in southern Lebanon. At 1655, Israeli heavy artillery also began shelling the area of Ra's al-'Ayn. Casualties are not yet known but material damage is reported to be very extnsive.

The Israeli Air Force raid was preceded by reconnaissance flights carried out by a squadron of planes between 1130 and 1400.

ISRAEL SHELLS TYRE, OTHER AREAS 21 AUG

NC210813 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 21 Aug 79 NC

[Text] The city of Tyre and nearby cities are being subjected to violent and concentrated Israeli shelling as of 0930 today. The shelling began at 0845. Several shells landed in the ruins area and in the sea opposite the port.

An-Nabatiyah and most villages of the area, Al-'Ayshiyah and Ar-Rayhan forests came under artillery fire from the southern borders. The shelling lasted several hours, from early today until 0800.

VOL REPORTS SYRIAN ARMY, MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD CLASH

NC201306 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 20 Aug 79 NC

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that in Aleppo, a Syrian Army force attacked a Muslim Brotherhood stronghold at 2100. The clash lasted until early this morning. Heavy, medium and light machineguns as well as RPG launchers were used. As a result, 2 Syrian soldiers were killed and 15 others were wounded. The Muslim Brotherhood group suffered five dead and a large number of other casualties.

According to reports received by the Voice of Lebanon, the attacking Syrian Army unit members wore protective vests. Realizing this, the Muslim Brotherhood members aimed their fire at the heads of the Syrian soldiers.

FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM RETURNS FROM TEHRAN VISIT

JN172047 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 17 Aug 79 JN

[Text] The Syrian delegation under 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned to Damascus from Tehran this afternoon. The delegation was made up of Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade Muhammad al-'Imadi and Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad.

The delegation was seen off at Tehran international airport by Dr Sadeq Tabataba'i, deputy prime minister and official spokesman of the Government of the Islamic Revolution; Dr Ebrahim Yazdi, foreign minister; and the Syrian charge d'affaires in Tehran.

The Syrian delegation today participated in the Iranian people's march on the occasion of Jerusalem Day.

Khaddam Interview

JN191525 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1330 GMT 19 Aug 79 JN

[Text] Tehran, 19 August--'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, has asserted that the peace in the region for which Syria is working is a lasting and comprehensive peace, based on justice and equality.

In an interview given to the Iranian newspaper KAYHAN, Khaddam said there are two conditions for a just peace: total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and recognition of the Palestinian Arab people's legitimate rights, including their right to return home, to determine their future and to establish an independent Palestinian state.

The deputy prime minister and foreign minister added that Syria stands with that which is right and is against injustice. It stands with peace and not with treason and capitulation, such as occurred at Camp David. Khaddam stressed that the aims of the United States are to disrupt the Arabs, to control the region strategically and to make As-Sadat a policemen in this region in its own interests. Following is the text of the interview:

[Question] How were your talks in Iran and how do you evaluate your talks with Iranian officials?

[Answer] Our talks with our Iranian brothers were conducted in a cordial atmosphere of understanding. Our views were identical on all the subjects discussed thus far, particularly on those topics related to bilateral relations and to the political evaluation of the region's events. I am satisfied with these talks and consider them very important.

[Question] How do you view the future of relations between Iran and Syria?

[Answer] Relations between Syria and Iran will witness positive developments in various fields. The two countries' policy stems from a clear vision of various political issues. Our bilateral relations make it incumbent on us to continue working to make them better. Our relations are close and strong, despite the effects these relations experienced during the time of the defunct regime. But the doors are now open for developing relations between Iran and the Arab states, particularly Syria.

[Question] Were there any topics of disagreement between you and your Iranian colleagues?

[Answer] There was no disagreement over any topic discussed. Our views were identical.

[Question] What is your evaluation of the initiative undertaken by the Iranian Government which it called Jerusalem Day?

[Answer] This initiative will be credited to His Eminence Imam Khomeyni. It will have a great effect in drawing the Islamic world to Jerusalem. This initiative is a step on the road to restoring the Palestinian rights and Jerusalem. We greatly appreciate and are grateful for the undertaking of this initiative.

[Question] In your opinion, what is the Iranian revolution's impact on the region?

[Answer] This revolution is the most important event in our contemporary history. It has played and will continue to play a prominent role not only in this region but in other areas of the world as well. The fall of oppression played a role in tipping the balance of forces in the area in favor of the progressive forces. For this reason, the United States sought to embroil As-Sadat in treason, to cause him to become a substitute for the shah in the area. The future will show that the Iranian revolution led to great results in drawing attention to the historic existence of peoples. Governments that deny the role of their peoples can do so for a while, but not forever.

We in Syria supported the revolution prior to its outbreak, during it and after its triumph. We consider it a step in restoring the balance in the area against the Zionist enemy.

[Question] My next question is on the conflict with Israel. Do you see a contradiction between the Arab-Israeli war and the Islamic-Israeli war?

[Answer] There is no difference or contradiction between the Arab-Israeli war and the Islamic-Israeli war, because the Muslims are also threatened by the Israeli danger. It is natural for the Muslims to stand alongside the Arabs for many reasons, particularly Jerusalem. Furthermore, by nature Islam is hostile to aggression, injustice, imperialism and Zionism. It is the duty of Muslims to oppose injustice and aggression. There is no contradiction between an Arab retort or an Islamic retort, because they complement each other against aggression.

[Question] The Iranians are sensitive on the issue of Imam Musa as-Sadr. What is the nature of this man and what has been his fate?

[Answer] This man's absence has left an impact that is 10 times greater on us than on the Iranian people, not only because he is President Hafiz al-Asad's friend and our friend, but because he is one of Lebanon's prominent leaders who repulsed the Israeli aggression. As-Sadr's absence has caused us deep pain. We have and continue to exert efforts to find a starting point that can help us discover the fate of this man, whom we all love and appreciate.

You here know little about Imam as-Sadr, but we know a good deal about him. We know of his efforts, sacrifice and his work for his country, Lebanon and Palestine.

We know of his efforts to end injustice and resist aggression. We ask God to help us discover the fate of this brother, for whom we harbor love. We ask God to return him to us.

[Question] Is Imam Musa as-Sadr imprisoned in Libya and do you have any information as to the party that is holding him?

[Answer] We cannot say whether he is in Libya or not. We have no sources or instruments that could help us in locating his whereabouts. We have exerted our efforts in Italy, France and the FRG. Our endeavors in these countries are continuing in this respect. We are serious in our attempt. We must always remain optimistic because there is great hope.

[Question] Why did the efforts to establish unity between Syria and Iraq cease, despite the fact that unity was anticipated? Was there unity or not?

[Answer] We consider Arab unity to be our great objective, because without unity the Arabs will always be the object of unjustice and aggression. It is like a car. If we dismantle the car, it cannot operate. It is the same with the nation. If it is dispersed, it cannot move. We have worked in the past and will continue to work for this objective, particularly under these circumstances, in order to confront the As-Sadat-Zionist-imperialist scheme. Unionist action comes within this framework and it is our noble objective. By accomplishing this objective, we would be achieving the objective of standing fast against Israel. We hope that our actions will have positive results, but this requires both hard work and patience.

[Question] We know that in both Damascus and Baghdad there is a single ruling party. Will there be unity with King Khalid or King Husayn if unity between Iraq and Syria does not take place?

[Answer] Unionist action is a big thing. It needs patience. What we cannot achieve today, we must work to achieve tomorrow. For a long time the Arabs suffered fragmentation, which left residues that cannot be wiped out in a day or a year. There are difficulties. However, these difficulties should not hamper our work to achieve our objective. People believed in the past that the shah could not be defeated, but the shah was defeated by the Iranian people's determination. We have to work to bring about the circumstances that will enable us to overcome obstacles. We are optimistic as to our victory over Zionism and imperialism. We are passing through difficult circumstances, because we are facing the United States, Israel and an Arab country that has betrayed the cause. However, we should not stray from the sound course, regardless of the momentous pressures. The aggression against southern Lebanon is part of these pressures. The proponents of the cause must endure.

[Question] Is there any truth to Baghdad's accusations that you are behind the aborted coup in Iraq?

[Answer] So far, the Iraqi Government has not issued an official accusation indicating that. However, it is not Syria's habit to interfere in the internal affairs of an Arab state. What the news agencies published against Syria is fabricated. As you have noticed, it was the Egyptian and Israeli radios that disseminated these allegations, in order to weaken the front that is hostile to the Camp David agreements.

[Question] Was Al-Bakr's departure a reverse to Syrian-Iraqi unity?

[Answer] Before his resignation, Al-Bakr sent a letter to President al-Asad explaining the reasons for his resignation, which dealt only with his health.

[Question] Don't you think that the Camp David accords are military agreements to tighten control over the region?

[Answer] Yes. One of the objectives of the Camp David accords is to transform As-Sadat into a policeman to protect U.S. interests in the area. Why is the United States supplying him with arms? Were he to use these arms against Israel, would the United States supply him with them? Probably not, because he signed an agreement with Israel and because the United States would never give him arms to fight Israel. The aim is to use these arms against the African and Arab countries. However, let us ask ourselves: Will he be able to do this? The answer is no, because he has not safeguarded his country's rights. He is concerned only for the microphone and the abuse of people. What has As-Sadat gained? He has isolated the Egyptian people. Is this in the Egyptian people's interest? Do the interests of the Egyptian people lie in As-Sadat's being alined with Israel and not with Arabs? There are examples in contemporary history that foretell As-Sadat's fate: Iran, Vietnam and Cambodia. The Iranian people, for example, are stronger than the shah. The shah is as weak as a ewe. He will not be able to be the area policeman.

[Question] It seems that one of the objectives of Israel's campaigns in scuthern Lebanon is to drag Syria into a war. What is your opinion on this?

[Answer] The war in the south has various objectives: to evict the Lebanese inhabitants and the Palestinian resistance from southern Lebanon so that Israel can expand; and to occupy the south and bring pressure on Lebanon to sign a peace treaty, as As-Sadat did. Furthermore, Israel wants to serve the forces collaborating with it in Lebanon and to help them divide Lebanon. It wants to liquidate the Palestinian people and pressure Syria through the Lebanese arena. These are also the objectives of Egypt and the United States, because they are helping Israel on the information level by covering up its objectives. All this is also part of the Camp David scheme.

[Question] What are the objectives of the Camp David accords?

[Answer] Israel's target is the Palestinian issue and its liquidation, as a step toward expansion and establishment of a greater Israel that stretches from the Euphrates to the Nile. For this reason, Israel speaks about self-administration and not about recognition of the Palestinian people's rights.

There are three kinds of Palestinians: the Palestinians of 1948, the Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and the Palestinians dispersed in several Arab countries. They want to establish a self-administration for the inhabitants and not for the land, because Israel considers all Palestinian land to be Israeli soil.

Another of Israel's objectives is to bring about an Israeli peace in the area, to open the border and realize a cultural, economic and political exchange, thus controlling the area, especially since we know that only 6 million Jews control political and economic life in the United States.

The United States' objective is to divide the Arabs and firmly control the area strategically.

As-Sadat's objective is to realize his dream of becoming the pharaoh of the region, because he is beset by the complex of treason. However, it is the Egyptian people who primarily suffer from this policy.

[Question] When and under what conditions will Syria conclude peace with Israel?

[Answer] This question is incorrect. Can there be peace between the aggressor and the attacked, between the robber and the robbed? e want a just peace, because there is a difference between just peace and treason, like that of As-Sadat. There are two conditions for peace: total withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and recognition of the Palestinian Arab people's legitimate rights, including their right to return home, determine their future and establish an independent Palestinian state. Talk about peace is completely out of the question. Otherwise, why are we fighting As-Sadat? We stand with what is right and against injustice. We stand with peace and not treason and capitulation such as occurred at Camp David. How can there be peace with the one who dispersed our people? Therefore, we distinguish between the path undertaken by As-Sadat and the just and honorable peace that will restore Arab rights.

[Question] What are the latest developments in establishing the eastern front?

[Answer] There is the eastern front and the northern front and there are no new factors. We are seeking to restore the region's strategic balance militarily, politically and economically, because this balance was shaken following As-Sadat's unilateral peace. We believe that His Eminence Imam Khomeyni and the Iranian revolution have their roles in creating balance and in repairing the damage done by Egypt. Hence, we are greatly sympathetic to this revolution and its victory. It is undoubtedly a new factor in the region.

[Question] Has the Arab countries' aid to Syria increased or decreased?

[Answer] It was decided at the Baghdad conference to offer aid to Syria and the front-line states. The greater part of the participating countries have paid their financial commitments. We are seeking to develop our intrinsic power on all levels, because our struggle with the Zionist enemy is a cultural conflict.

[Question] Will there be an Egyptian attack against Libya?

[Answer] This is not unlikely. Whether or not this will take place depends on several factors.

[Question] What is Syria's connection with the Al-Amal organization? Is there cooperation between them?

[Answer] Yes, Al-Amal is an organization led by Imam Musa as-Sadr. Syria sympathizes with this organization, which adopts national stands and slogans and which comprises--as we know--good elements. We offer help to all political forces in Lebanon that have taken the confrontation of Israel upon themselves.

[Question] Do you have a message for the Iranian people?

[Answer] Yes. It is a message of love and the wish that these people consolidate their victory and achieve further progress and prosperity. This is the message I was asked to convey to them in the name of Syria, the Syrian people and government, by President al-Asad.

ALGERIA'S YAHIAOUI PAYS VISIT, MAKES STATEMENT

JN191345 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1255 GMT 19 Aug 79 JN

[Text] Damascus, 19 August--At 1300 today, Mohamed Salah Yahiaoui, Politburo member and executive coordinator of the Algerian National Liberation Front, arrived in Damascus with a message for President Hafiz al-Asad from his brother Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid related to the Arab and international developments. He was received at Damascus international airport by Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, a number of comrade members of the party's National and Regional Commands, the Algerian ambassador in Damascus and the embassy staff.

In a statement to a SANA correspondent, Yahiaoui said: My visit to fraternal Syria is actually an extension and continuation of the meetings of the two countries' highest level officials. The purpose of my presence in Syria, with which we are joined by relations of fraternity and struggle, is to bolster our militant solidarity and steadfastness in face of the schemes of colonialism and imperialism and their agents in the Arab homeland in both its eastern and western parts. Yahiaoui added: I will convey a message to brother President Hafiz al-Asad from his brother Chadli Bendjedid on Arab and international developments. I will also be glad to take this opportunity to exchange views with my brother leader officials in fraternal Syria on our common fateful issues, most important of which is the holy issue of the Palestinian people and restoration of the territories occupied in 1967. In conclusion, he said: I take this opportunity to convey greetings to our people in fraternal Syria from our people in Algeria.

Talks With Al-Asad

JN202150 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 20 Aug 79 JN

[Text] This evening in Latakia palace, His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad received Mohamed Salah Yahiaoui, Politburo member and executive coordinator of the Algerian National Liberation Front, who returned to Syria today. The meeting was attended by Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, and 'Abd al-Qadir ibn Qasim, Algerian ambassador in Damascus.

During the meeting, they resumed discussions on ways to strengthen relations between the two fraternal countries. They also discussed the situation in the Arab area and the continuous plotting by the Camp David sides against the Arab cause. They asserted the significance of continuing work to strengthen and consolidate the Arab position in order to cope with the continuous attempts to liquidate the Arab cause. President al-Asad gave Yahiaoui a letter for Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid.

MOROCCO

KING HASSAN HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE ON SAHARAN ISSUE

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[Press conference by Morocco's King Hassan II at the Royal Palace in Fes--live; languages as indicated]

[Excerpts] [Hassan--in French] Ladies and gentlemen: First of all, I am happy to see so many of you here and happy too, to see that you have well endured the timetable, as press conferences are not usually given at this hour. The timing of the Ramadan however, compels us to (?comply with the rules) and I apologize at the start. [The king has waited until the end of Ramadan before starting his press conference]

The events which Morocco--a part of the Mediterranean basin--as well as the whole of the northwest of the Sahara have been living through require, in my opinion, a certain number of clarifications. Clarifications are necessary because Morocco and its subregion find themselves confronted either by ignorance or dishonesty. In either case, we consider it to be our duty to clear up matters as far as possible for international and regional public opinion. I will always do it, as I have done several times already with you, with frankness, spontaneity and without any ulterior motive.

The matters at stake are far too serious for my country, for our neighbors and for Europe for me to engage in certain political or dialectical gymnastics while what is at risk is freedom and ethics, not only those of Morocco but of all countries devoted to democracy, devoted to freedom, that live in the subregion.

It is for this reason that I will give a very brief history of the Sahara affair so as to give you as much time as you wish to ask your questions.

Since its independence, and in particular since 12 April 1956, Morocco, in the accord signed not in Madrid--contrary to what is generally believed--but in Granada in the Hotel Alphonso XIII at 0500 between our negotiators and the Spanish negotiators--this Madrid [as heard] agreement not only put an end to the Spanish protectorate over the so-called Spanish zone but the document laid down that Spain would help Morocco to complete its territorial integrity. Since then, stage by stage, we have succeeded in making Spain give back the maximum amount of territory and every time by way of negotiation. And this is what I should like you to remember. The start was a legal start and the arrival at Dakhla by the Moroccans, on behalf of the Moroccans, is a legal arrival and I will demonstrate it to you.

Thus, at every stage it has been on a legal basis that we have claimed our territories before the United Nations. This was the case at Tarfaya, first at all, and then it was the case of (?Sidi Ifni), which has always been linked in the Moroccan demands and in the UN resolutions--Ifni and the Spanish Sahara. Moreover, I do not see how one can link two opposite things in the same sentence, in particular in the case of a UN resolution.

However, on every occasion since 1956, every time there has been question of decolonization, the United Nations has voted resolutions comprising Sidi Ifni and the Spanish Sahara.

Sidi Ifni is returning to us and, meanwhile, we see at the United Nations the busy activity of a country we have not recognized yet, which was called Mauritania and which has been pushed, pushed, pushed to also claim a part of the Sahara, and it is thus that we have met it and all the interested sides in the resolutions. We knew that it was Algeria that pushed Mauritania. At that juncture we had no reason for a dialog with Mauritania--it was not recognized by Morocco. On the occasion of the Islamic summit of 1969, however, chance brought it about that the summit was in Morocco and chance brought it about that President Ould Daddah came to us. The fact that I went to the airport to welcome him, the fact that his national anthem was sounded in his presence and in my own was a de facto or de jure recognition but, in fact, this had brought Morocco out of its isolation in regard to Mauritania.

Despite this, the clouds between Mauritania and ourselves have not cleared. Then came the OAU summit of 1972 and everybody knew that we would reach agreement with the Algerians concerning our borders. And this was when history intervened and President Boumediene, God rest his soul, said to me: Listen, I do not wish that it should be said or believed that we have signed at Mauritania's expense; could you not reach agreement with it so that your steps at the United Nations should henceforth be joint steps for the Sahara's decolonization?

I gave my personal agreement and since then we have made our representations in concert and as friends.

There is something imponderable in every policy and at no time have Algerian leaders ever thought that Morocco and Mauritania could become objective allies. And this is where their monumental and fundamental error lies. Thus Morocco and Mauritania have ever since been signing joint agreements and as far as Morocco is concerned, Morocco has always implemented these agreements with the greatest of honesty and loyalty.

And here we are, returning to our legal trail and always the law, the law and the law. Not so that under the cover of the law we would be able to do a lot of things, no, but under the cover of law one has one's conscience at rest.

We have been returning, then, to our legal trail because Spain wanted to hold a referendum in the former Spanish Sahara in order to lead it to a certain autonomy with rather close ties to Spain. What could we do? Go to war against Spain? Impossible. Try to talk with the Spaniards? In several press conferences I have recounted the marathon efforts I made trying to convince Generalissimo Franco of the rightness of our cause; but in vain. Then came the idea of asking the United Nations to consult its consultative organ, that is, the International Court of Justice, in order to know if first, before the arrival of the Spaniards, the Sahara was terra nullius, in other words belonging to nobody, and secondly, what links the Sahara had with Morocco and Mauritania.

The International Court of Justice gave its opinion. The first point: It was not a terra nullius, a property without an owner. This is very important. Secondly, there were ties of allegiance between Morroco and the Sahara.

Thirdly, there was conflict between Spain and Morocco and it was for this reason that Morocco had an ad hoc judge while Mauritania had none. [as heard]

And this is what gave us justification for the Green March, flowing from the international court's decision.

It is all-important to know that the court said that there was no terra nullius. However, what is called the Algiers Accord--in fact, this is nothing more than a bit of paper signed at a picnic, in legal terms--what is called the Algiers Accord would turn the Rio de Oro into terra nullius. Why? Because one would hand a territory to someone who does not exist, namely the POLISARIO.

So, by going to Dakhla and by receiving the people of Dakhla, Morocco was defending legality and the international court's decision. For the POLISARIO does not exist, either in Tanzania, where the liberation movements are, or in the OAU, nowhere. It does not even have a birth certificate from the political and legal point of view. And to hand something to someone who does not exist is either a handover which is void or else one is making what one has handed over nonexistent. Thus they were going to make Tiris El Gharbia into terra nullius. And we, Morocco, could not agree that a place that was recognized as having ties of allegiance should be made into terra nullius.

Thus from a legal viewpoint we consider that the piece of paper signed in Algiers is nothing more than an (?internal) agreement binding only those who signed it. Regarding the Mauritanian side--without interfering in internal affairs--I do not think that the signatories had the legal representativeness of continuity, of peace and unequivocalness. Regarding the other side, I believe that those who signed have no legal existence. The POLISARIO does not exist. And it is here that I ask myself: What did the Algerians want, they who are lawyers, they who are finicky, they who pass a resolution only after a minute's examination, they who have people who had been trained at all the law schools; why should they accept a false birth certificate or why should they support it? It obviously appears to me that this serves no purpose.

Let us continue our trail. Why did Morocco accept the allegiance of the people of Dakhla? First, because one never refuses an allegiance which is based on history, and second because the manner by which the Mauritanians left Tiris El Gharbia was not a decolonization. It was not done in compliance with a resolution. It was quite simply a violation of all the resolutions voted at the United Nations and the OAU. For the two resolutions that were voted at the United Nations in 1975, although being contradictory--or complementary--insist on the consulation of the populations. And even the one that was falsified at Monrovia 10 days ago, although we reject it, includes among the necessary stages the consultation of the population. Naturally, this would take at least 6 or 7 months; first the cease-fire and peace, then a very accurate list of the inhabitants of Tiris El Gharbia, in the third place the examiners and in the fourth place the questions to be put. None of all this was done; nothing of all this was done at all. One even has the impression that never have the United Nations, the OAU, law and the will of the people been flouted more on the occasion of a picnic at the end of which an agreement was signed on the margin of a piece of newspaper. This is surely the negation of all continuity and all legality in legal proceedings.

Finally, the people of Dakhla have expressed before some of you--and I know who--their spontaneous will. I even know, as some of you have said, that very gently traps were set for them at every opportunity and every time their reply was the same, spontaneous, straightforward, unequivocal. You have been able to see the manner in which they came to present their allegiance. Well then, faced with all these circumstances, Morocco could not allow itself to remain with arms folded.

We have assumed our responsibilities with calm firmness and by doing so we consider that our populations have been consulted and they have given their answer.

And more than that, Mauritania's abdication gives us the right to put the question in another manner before the international authorities, because the nature of the problem is no longer the same. The helter-skelter retreat, on the sly and so shamefully as was carried out by Mauritania, is leading us to put the question of cause at the legal level. So if a question is to be put at the United Nations on a resolution, it must be submitted in a different manner because the problem is of a different nature, for it has been revealed that Mauritania will have to be condemned by default and for misdemeanor.

So, ladies and gentlemen, although a little dry and somewhat pruned of a certain number of events which I have left out in order not to overburden you, this was the preliminary statement I wanted to give to you. In line with it I am ready to reply to the questions you may want to ask me.

[Question] How far are you prepared to go militarily to keep the Western Sahara?

[Answer--in French] Since I am only the physical reflection of the desire of my people and the legal expression of the determination of the Moroccans, I will go as far as they want to go. And if, as I think, they want to go to the very end, then, for whatever time I have left to live, they will find me at their head to go to the very end. Everything will depend on what I reflect and what I express.

[Question--in French] (Alain Manargues), French radio: Your Majesty, the situation is currently one of (?uncertainty). Do you think Morocco is closer to war than to negotiations for peace? What is the position, exactly?

[Answer--in French] Quite frankly--and I promise to receive you at your request as soon as you have made it--I couldn't give you anything like an exact reply, although politics is not an exact science. I could give you a nearly exact reply in the next month or 6 weeks. For the moment the two observers are [word indistinct]. A layer of morning fog lies between them. One can't see very well now but in 6 weeks at the most I think I will be able to enlighten you.

[Question--in Arabic] The Kuwaiti AR-RA'Y AL-AMM: Historically, Morocco's border used to extend to the Senegal River and all the people of Sahara swore allegiance to the Moroccan throne. The question is: Why did Morocco agree under the Madrid agreement to grant Mauritania the southern part of the Sahara?

[Answer--in Arabic] Indeed, the Moroccan border did extend to the Senegal River but circumstances changed that situation. As for the part of the Sahara given to Mauritania by Morocco, this in fact was not provided for in the Madrid agreement. If Morocco had not reached agreement with Mauritania to submit to the International Court of Justice a question or two, the opposition of the African and some European and other states would have stood in the way of submitting the two questions to the court. Submitting the questions was vital to future developments. If the answer was negative, we would not have been able to undertake the Green March. The agreement between Mauritania and Morocco on the Sahara was therefore necessary. And now, as you see, it appears to have been a transient rather than a permanent matter.

[Question--in Arabic] AL-MUSTAQBAL of Paris: Your Majesty, do you believe that what is now going on in North Africa is closely and firmly related to the matter of preoccupying the Arab nation with side issues so that the Camp David agreement can go through?

[Answer--in Arabic] My personal view is that what is taking place in this part of the Arab world amounts to a plot against the closing of the ranks. There is no doubt that the resources and energies which are being wasted daily could have been saved by Morocco, Algeria and Libya with the result of bolstered Arab power.

[Question--in French] [words indistinct] Your Majesty, if the POLISARIO attacks you from Mauritania, will you excersize the right of pursuit--something you are not at the moment doing in Algeria?

[Answer--in French] There is no reason why I shouldn't. I know that that is a paradox, which I have explained to President Heydalla. I said to him: You put me in an impossible human situation. For 2 years my troops lived side by side with yours in a fraternal manner. For 2 years we helped you to defend yourselves; for 2 years in all the garrisons we occupied, the civilian populations were supported by us; our doctors looked after them in Atar, Zouerate, Bir Mograin and other places. But you have acted in such a way that the soldiers who were with you could one day kill or be killed by a Mauritanian soldier, or inadvertantly hit a civilian. That is the drama of Mauritanian policy; it places its troops, its men and its civilians, and my troops in an impossible human situation.

[Question--in French] At what point would you consider Morocco to have regained its historical territorial integrity, if it has not done so already?

[Answer--in French] [Sentence indistinct] This will not happen while the problem of Gibraltar is before the committee of 24. We fully support the Spanish claim to Gibraltar. We will consider that we have regained the integrity of our territory when we have reintegrated Ceuta and Malilla.

[Question--in French] (?You would not) expand as far as Nouakchott, as far as Mauritania?

[Answer--in French] Oh no, no. I will explain why. It is for the simple reason that I am accustomed to work with a people. I see my people; they see (?me); we understand each other. If I started trying to work with tribes or with populations I would (?deserve no credit). That is not my way.

[Question--in French] [Words indistinct] We are tied to Mauritania by a solidarity agreement dated on 8 June 1970, which led to a series of economic, cultural, social and medical conventions. Since 13 May 1977 we have been tied to Mauritania by the mutual assistance agreement. What is the future of cooperation with Mauritania and the future of the military alliance, since so far the military alliance has not been denounced? If aggression is committed against Mauritania, will Morocco come to the rescue?

[Answer--in French] That is a very broad question. Let us start with your last sentence. If Mauritania is attacked, what would be the attitude of Morocco? I ask: Attacked by whom? Whatever happens from now on in Mauritania can only be an internal affair. We know that the members of the POLISARIO are Mauritanians. If Algerian armored cars or aircraft appear, we will go to Mauritania's rescue.

If we see Malians or Senegalese [sentence incomplete]--but if tomorrow there is a coup in Nouakchott, that would be a domestic, internal affair. We will not intervene. They themselves may seize power in Nouakchott. [sentence indistinct] One day they may ask us to resume the mutual defense agreement which we had with President Ould Daddah. [sentence indistinct] If Mauritania is attacked we will defend it, but not against the POLISARIO because the POLISARIO is its family affair. In this connection I think one can thank the Algerians for having reconciled brothers. It was the only positive element I can see in the Algiers agreement, the clarification of the [word indistinct] situation. Henceforth, it will not be a question of liberation; it will be a matter of internal Mauritanian opposition in Mauritania. That does not concern us at all.

[Question--in Arabic] The AR-RAY' of Amman: Your Majesty, does Morocco intend to seek Arab mediation to settle the dispute with Algeria concerning the Western Sahara issue?

[Answer--in Arabic] Morocco is prepared to accept any mediation. Morocco is also ready to lend support to the success of every peace initiative. We welcome every mediation. If the Arabs are logical to themselves, however, they must have a starting point for such mediation. A starting point for that mediation must be closely linked to the summit conference--not the last one but the one before that, the one held in Rabat in 1974.

[Question--in French] (?At the summit) in Monrovia, Morocco appears to have been isolated, or at least in difficulty on the African political chessboard. How do you explain this and what do you intend to do to get out of this situation?

[Answer--in French] I will be very frank. I will never consider us to be isolated in the context of showy conferences. What happened in Monvovia, what has been happening in the OAU for several years are showy conferences. They are conferences of (?dancing) [words indistinct] in addition, they are conferences of people who are insolvent. I don't know if (?that is) understood. If I had to draw up the status of the OAU again I would ask that the condition be added that a state should be solvent, that it be able to pay its employees every month. That's the minimum that is demanded of the members of a club. As for the number of checks handed out at Monrovia, everyone knows about that. It is really shameful: There were checks for $5 million, $3 million, $10 million--all that to (?fill the gaps) in a little budget. If I am to be isolated from this sewer, well, there will be 6 or 7 or 10 of us who prefer to remain isolated but who will be called upon one day to repair this Africa. Because Africa really has gotten off to a bad start. This is [word indistinct] a point on which I agree with Mr (Dumont) although we do not agree with him on many other points.

[Question--in French] (Jean Wolf) of Radio Belgium: Sir, regarding the Libyan group, which regularly intervenes in various African conflicts: I have been able to notice very often in Mauritania that material (?seized) after battles with the POLISARIO came from Tripoli or Benghazi. This Libyan position, to which Your Majesty has not yet alluded, is it not of a nature as to offend the position of Morocco and actually delay a peaceful solution which might be made with Algeria?

[Answer--in French] I had just mentioned Libya as one of the protagonists. In any case, Libya would be very pleased if a conflict broke out between Morocco and Algeria, since President al-Qadhdhafi has but one dream: To have the leadership of this region. And if a war broke out between Morocco and Algeria, (?this is what would happen).

Libya would put all its military potential at Algeria's disposal, perhaps including MiG-23s, piloted by (?either) Algerians or Libyans, but also including tens of thousands of tanks. In any case, we would all come out of it weakened, both Algeria and Morocco, and our friend President al-Qadhdhafi would find himself, ipso facto, without having paid a thing, as usual, with the leadership of North Africa, or the former North Africa. Then he might think he could talk with As-Sadat as an equal. Secondly, (?what) interest does Libya have in all this? I have observed that Libya is in the process of extending out two arms. It has reached the Red Sea by way of Ethiopia and it wants to continue in the Horn; and with the other arm across Algeria, Mali and Niger--which, incidentally, it is terrorizing; it is terrorizing Niger and Mali--it wants to reach the Atlantic Ocean. (?And for whose benefit) I leave each to draw his own conclusions. The fact is that the game is clear and, indeed, if one can't see it, it's because he doesn't want to.

[Question--in French] (Didier Maserolle) of Radio Monte Carlo. Your Majesty, before the death of President Boumediene, it appeared that there was a chance of a dialog between Morocco and Algeria, since there had been talk of a meeting between you and President Boumediene. Do you think this chance of a dialog has diminished since that time, or that there still is a chance for a dialog?

[Answer--in French] I think the chances are the same. They exist, of course, President Chadli may be waiting until he has got his private, internal life better organized in the political field, so as to have more elbow room, but the chances are no less. I would even say they are perhaps all in favor of (?a meeting which will make definite) what is being called--I still put it in quote marks--the Algiers agreement. (?They) have not yet said all that they want to say. [passage indistinct]

[Question--in Arabic] Given the excellent relations between Rabat and Dakar and Senegal's geographical position, how do you view Dakar's role in this crisis?

[Answer--in Arabic] I cannot tell you about this now because I am meeting with President Senghor by the end of this month and we will discuss this matter together. However, I can tell you that Senegal is as interested in what happens in Mauritania and even in Rio de Oro as ourselves. It is as interested as Mali. President Senghor and I will examine our common preoccupations, our common plans. I can't go into them unilaterally.

[Question--in Arabic] I would like to know Morocco's position regarding the so-called right of pursuit of POLISARIO.

[Answer--in Arabic] As I have already explained, we are determined to exercise the right of pursuit against any aggression against our country, all the more so since the POLISARIO is unknown on international records and is not even covered by the Geneva convention. [laughs] Why, do you fear that they will seek refuge in Spain, or what? This will not happen. Thank you.

[Question--in Arabic] A question about the warming of relations between the United States and Morocco. After a certain number of declarations and visits by U.S. senators, it seems that a warming of relations is now taking place between the two countries.

[Answer--in Arabic] Yes, in reality there has never been any coolness between Morocco and the United States. Since you ask the question, Senator Solarz asked me (?how anyone could imagine) that there was a little crisis between the United States and Morocco. The people of the United States and of Morocco have had close links for two centuries.

(?According to) the senator, there is no crisis between Morocco and the United States. There is a crisis inside the United States. You have a crisis engendered by Watergate and Indochina, by Vietnam. All your allies, be they Atlantic, trans-Atlantic or on the other side of Panama, are in a state of crisis with you because you constantly live in a state of crisis yourself. So, hurry up and (?sort) yourselves out and then you will be better understood. No, in fact there is no crisis. Shall we say that America is beginning to come out of its internal problems and is once again opening its eyes and taking an interest in foreign policy.

[Question--in French] Last Tuesday you asked the enemies of Morocco to go back to Mauritania. Does that mean that you wanted the integration of the POLISARIO fighters with Mauritania?

[Answer--in French] No, in fact I advised those Mauritanians who (?call themselves) the POLISARIO and who train either in Libya or in Algeria to put an end to this state of affairs. Or, if they should seize power, to start to work constructively in Mauritania. [Words indistinct] to lay down their arms and go home to build up their country. I never told the POLISARIO [words indistinct] people forget one thing: The members of POLISARIO are Mauritanians.

[Question--in French] Do you not think that attitudes toward the conflict in the Western Sahara are governed by the fact that Morocco is considered a priori to be a [word indistinct] monarchy and the POLISARIO members present themselves as a democratic revolutionary movement? Do you consider this judgment valid?

[Answer--in French] In my opinion the POLISARIO is divided into two halves: The Mauritanians, who ought to practice their brigandage elsewhere, and the Moroccans, who in my view are rebels and in the eyes of the law are criminals. Fortunately for us, these in the second category are a very small minority.

[Question--in Arabic] Now that Morocco has recovered the southern part of the Sahara, how can it prevent the extension of the present conflict to other states of the region?

[Answer--in Arabic] The interested states are Mauritania, Morocco, Algeria, Mali and Senegal. Spain, too, because of the Canaries. Naturally, the problem is going to be an internal problem for Mauritania. No doubt, Mauritania is going to experience very hard times, which might threaten even its entity and unity. Logically, this would reveberate on states neighboring Mauritania. If these states were reasonable and wise, they would bring about solidarity among themselves; Morocco, Algeria, Mali and Senegal should help Mauritania together. They should help Mauritania settle the differences between its various populations and tribes. They should help it financially and economically because it is not in the interest of Morocco, Algeria, Mali and Senegal for Mauritania to be a sick country. Its sickness could spread to our countries and contaminate us.

[Question--in Arabic] Your Majesty, with your permission, I would like to raise again the question of the OAU. After the OAU vote on the Sahara, are you going to boycott the OAU sessions or occupy your seat in the organization? The second question, if you permit: I would like to know your positions regarding the free officers, the group of free officers, the Mauritanian free officers organization whose creation has been announced in Rabat?

[Answer--in Arabic] As I have said, as things stand now in Africa, given the international situation, the question of raw materials, the race for African raw materials, the race for the occupation of positions in Africa, I cannot lose my seat at the OAU.

I may be absent for a short while. [passage indistinct]

[Question--in French] (Bernard Dupin) of LE MONDE. You were saying just now that you didn't really see what reasons could have pushed Algeria into [word indistinct] the Algiers agreement. Can you tell us your theories on this subject?

[Answer--in French] Well, there are two theories, either the Mauritanians would go and sign with the POLISARIO in Tripoli [words indistinct] This would be the second act to the agreement between At-Turayki and Ould Sidi, and this would really be for Tripoli the crowning, the baptism, the fethering, the [word indistinct] in the Mauritanian affair. Perhaps for this reason Algeria wanted any kind of agreement to be signed, so long as it was at Algiers.

Or else it was a way for it to say: "Right, I don't have any territorial ambitions. Indeed, it has always said [word indistinct] but I, too, have my right to the sea. It can [words indistinct] to the POLISARIO now. Now it can have, with Nouakchott, the whole Mauritanian coast. So it can have [word indistinct]. (?Leave us in peace.) It had Ould Daddah's head--he isn't there. It has the government it wanted. It has the agreement it wanted. By way of its friends in the POLISARIO it can have transit facilities or exit to the sea. If they had asked me that at the beginning, rather than (?us lasting) 3 years knocking each other about, I would have said: Listen, you want two or three ports? Take your pick, you can have them. On the Sahara (?we would put up barbed wire fences) because I don't want smuggling, with radios and transistors crossing without payment of customs. Do you want two or three ports on the Atlantic? Why wouldn't I give them to Algeria? [Words indistinct] I would have leased them for 99 years. Anyway, when it left the installations would remain.

[Question--in French] You said yourself, Your Majesty, that a power dominated by the POLISARIO, once installed in Mauritania, because (?geopolitics) would want to maintain close cooperation agreements with Morocco. Do you think that in these circumstances a change of power in Nouakchott would satisfy Algeria? Necessarily and in the long term?

[Answer--in French] You know, there is nothing but chance in Mauritania.

[Question--in French] [Words indistinct] I asked you for the position of your country on [sentence incomplete]

[Hassan interrupts] Yes, but listen, are you really so interested in just a colonel?

[Questioner] Not really.

[Answer--in French] Well, I say to him quite simply that he may live here freely. Within the framework of the Moroccan constitution; that if he though of himself as a political refugee, well, I could only grant him asylum but, of course, he must respect the special relations which exist between Morocco and Mauritania. I could not agree that, by making impetuous or inopportune declarations, Colonel Kadar ought to darken a sky which is not yet very clear to start with.

[Question--in French] Is Morocco still in favor of the unity of Mauritania or would it not be hostile to the tearing apart of this country? [as heard]

[Answer--in French] The tearing apart of Mauritania could only be bad.

I repeat, bad, in the short, medium and long term for Morocco and for all the countries bordering on Mauritania. I note that matters were much clearer vis-a-vis Algeria and Morocco when there was a government such as that of Mokhtar Ould Daddah's, representing all the trends, all the tribes, all the social strata. At least one knew who one was dealing with, for or against one. I had this government against me for 8 years. He gave me a rough time, I can assure you; Father Mokhtar gave me a rough time. It was poor little Mauritania that the big bad Moroccan wolf wanted to swallow up. He made life hard for me, in company with our Tunisian friends. To have a tribal government in Mauritania is to have constant instability. Well, when you look at the area taken up by Mauritania, when you look at its key position, it would be serious for Africa itself if this instability were to be exploited. Mauritania borders three countries. In bordering Morocco it borders Europe. In fact, it borders four countries; we always forget about the Canary Islands, which are only a few hundred kms away. The Canaries are opposite. And while bordering Morocco, it borders Spain. So we should all strive for the unity of Mauritania. This is why the POLISARIO which is outside, wants to return in one way or another to try to restore its country to its feet.

[Question--in Spanish] YA of Madrid: I would like to ask Your Majesty for your opinion on the position at this time of the Spanish Government on the Sahara.

[Answer--in French] I have just said that the Spanish Government, as well as the French Government, could do peace a great service not by saying what should be done but by noting what was there before and if they really want to contribute toward peace, they could do so either jointly or separately. [as heard]

[Question--in French] Your Majesty, you have been talking about France. One has the impression that you are disappointed by its attitude. Do you reproach President Giscard d'Estaing for being too reserved on this matter?

[Answer--in French] I do not reproach him at all. First of all, this is the first time that I have asked, that I have said and asked France and Spain for something in this field. I am not, therefore, in a position to be in any way bitter. I have never asked President Giscard d'Estaing or His Majesty King Juan Carlos to be the recorders of history and tell us what was what. Not at all. I say, quite simply, that that might be the quickest way--not necessarily the best way but the quickest.

[Question--in French] [Words indistinct] What future is there for Moroccan-Mauritanian cooperation?

[Answer--in French] The future of Moroccan-Mauritanian cooperation is as compulsory as a survival operation. To the extent that we can provide oxygen every day, every day, until Mauritania gets back on its feet, we will have done a good turn for our national defense as far as we are concerned. So, cooperation with Mauritania is an act of self-defense and it must be pushed to the limit as this country is in an increasingly frightful situation.

MINISTERIAL COUNCIL DISCUSSES RIO DE ORO ELECTION

LD201517 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 20 Aug 79 LD

[Ministry of Information communique]

[Text] Last night the king chaired a ministerial council meeting at the Royal Palace in Fes which discussed the provisions for organizing parliamentary elections in Rio de Oro.

The council approved a draft organizational law to amend the existing organizational law regarding the composition of the Chamber of Deputies and the method of electing its members. It also approved a draft law providing for collective electoral lists for the province of Rio de Oro. The two draft laws will be put to the Chamber of Deputies at an extraordinary session.

The ministerial council approved the draft decree regarding the convening of the extraordinary session. It also approved draft decrees relating to (?the preparing) of local collectives in the province of Rio de Oro, the distribution of parliamentary seats and the creation and preparation of the machinery for the direct election of deputies.

The ministerial council also approved a draft decree making 14 August, the day on which the inhabitants of Rio de Oro renewed their allegiance to his majesty the king, a national holiday.

BOUCETTA TO UN: RESULTS OF OAU SUMMIT NOT BINDING

LD172058 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 17 Aug 79 LD

[Text] In a letter he sent to the UN secretary general yesterday, Mr M'hamed Boucetta, minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation, informed Dr Waldheim that Morocco does not consider itself bound by the results of the 16th African summit held in Monrovia last July.

Mr Boucetta let it be known to the UN secretary general that these results had been reached in a climate of haste, ambiguity and blatant violation of the OAU Charter and its internal rules. Mr Boucetta stressed in his letter that the Monrovia summit had disregarded the previous African summit held in Khartoum and its call for an extraordinary conference on the Sahara problem.

SUDAN

FURTHER DETAILS ON CABINET RESHUFFLE REPORTED

JN171745 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1715 GMT 17 Aug 79 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 17 Aug--President Ja'far Numayri issued today a number of republican decrees relieving several ministers and appointing others.

According to the decrees, Badr ad-Din Sulayman is relieved of his post as a leader in the People's Assembly and appointed as minister of finance and economy; and 'Uthman Hashim 'Abd al-Salam is relieved of his post as minister of finance and national economy and appointed as minister of industry. The decrees also relieved the ministers of culture and information, communications, public service and administrative reform, and the two ministers of state for agriculture. These have been replaced by:

Dr Isma'il al-Hajj Musa as minister of culture and information; Dr Ahmad as-Sayyid Hamad as minister of communications; Haydar Kabsun as minister of state for public service and administrative reform; and Dr Muhammad al-Hasan al-Jack and Dr 'Umar al-Amin as ministers of state for agriculture.

According to the decrees, a new ministry for the people's assembly affairs has been created. Jalal 'Ali Lutfi has been appointed its minister.

Dr Hasan 'Abdallah at-Tura'bi was appointed attorney general and several advisers were relieved of their posts. These advisers are:

Harun al-'Awad, economic adviser to the president at the prime minister's office; Dr Zaki Mustafa, adviser to the president for reviewing and enacting laws; Dr 'Awn ash-Sharif Qasim is appointed a leader in the People's Assembly.

President Numayri issued a decision appointing 'Ali Shummu, former minister of culture and information, as chairman of the Higher Council for People's Sports; and 'Abd al-Fattah Hamad as secretary general of the council.

President Numayri issued an order commissioning the chairman of the Higher Council for People's Sports with his powers stipulated in Article 34 of the People's Sports Law of 1979.

The decrees did not include the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Health, Education and Guidance, Cooperation, Commerce and Supply, Irrigation and Electric Power, Transport, Energy and Mining, Agriculture, Nutrition and Natural Resources, and national planning.

WESTERN SAHARA

'MAGHREB OF PEOPLES' PROGRAM ON CHANCES OF WAR

LD172130 Oran Domestic Service in Arabic 0000 GMT 17 Aug 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary from the "Maghreb of Peoples" program]

[Summary] "After its new aggression against the peoples of Mauritania and Sahara, the Alawi throne is now engaged in another attempt to escalate the state of war and tension in the region. In reference to such desperate attempts, Western information media speak of the possibility of war breaking out between Algeria and Morocco to settle once and for all existing problems, foremostly the problem of Western Sahara."

The goal of the Rabat regime is to strike at the Algerian revolution, its policy and the security of its people. "The fierce information campaign being waged by Morocco is in line with the general preparation of the atmosphere for embarking on an aggressive operation against another of the region's peoples. The Moroccan claim about the concentration of Algerian forces in Mauritania is no more than an attempt to mislead the Moroccan people [words indistinct] the occupation of Dakhla. It is also to mislead world public opinion, especially in Africa."

Perhaps it is necessary to refer to the frequently affirmed declaration--previously by the late President Boumediene and now by President Chadli Bendjedid--that we do not intend to commit aggression against anyone but we are ready to repulse any aggressor. Perhaps it is also useful to remind those who are trying to play with fire that our people are too interested in the task of rebuilding their country to think in terms of committing aggression. When necessary, however, they are ready to defend themselves.

LIKUD KNESSET FACTION MEETS WITH BEGIN 20 AUG

TA201640 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 20 Aug 79 TA

[Text] We shall open with a report on the political portion of the Likud Knesset faction meeting which took place at the prime minister's office in Jerusalem. Our Knesset correspondent Moshe Hakohen reports: [begin recording]

We are in the midst of an important struggle against certain proposals on the subject of the autonomy and regarding a modification of Resolution 242--proposals that the United States initiated or is supporting--the prime minister said. In this connection, Mr Begin recalled the U.S. and Egyptian proposals that had been raised at a meeting of the autonomy talks working teams in Alexandria 3 weeks ago--proposals which constituted a clear deviation from the Camp David agreements--as well as the current U.S. initiative regarding a supplementary draft resolution in addition to Resolution in addition to Resolution 242. Attempts had already been made in the past to change and distort the Camp David agreements, the prime minister said. We did not lend a hand to this in the past, and neither shall we lend a hand to this in the future.

Referring to the new American initiative regarding Resolution 242, the prime minister said: Recently, various ideas have been broached in this connection, including a draft resolution already submitted by Kuwait to the Security Council. We approached the United States on this matter, and Secretary of State Vance promised us that the United States would veto the proposal. However, we learned that the United States is maintaining contacts with various international factors with a view to presenting another draft resolution on the same issue. We heard about the possibility of such a proposal being submitted only on Friday from Ambassador Robert Strauss. We made it clear to him then and there that any new resolution to be adopted in connection with Resolution 242, regardless of whether it adds to it or deducts from it, can have only one meaning: A change in Resolution 242. This resolution constitutes the agreed upon basis for the Camp David agreements and any erosion of that basis can only mean the erosion of the agreement. We also explained to Ambassador Strauss that the new American initiative is a violation of the commitment given to Israel by the United States in September 1975, a commitment it renewed after the signing of the peace treaty with Egypt.

Meanwhile, Ambassador Strauss went to Cairo and met with President as-Sadat, his deputy, Husni Mubarak, and with Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil. He told us on his return here that in Cairo he had found the same reservations toward the American initiative which he had found in Jerusalem. Consequently, he told us, he came to the conclusion that the United States should reconsider its position. At the same time however, the prime minister says, there is no certainty that Strauss' recommendation will be accepted by the administration in Washington. In any case, the fact that both Israel and Egypt raised the same reservations regarding the possibility of the adoption of the supplementary resolution to Resolution 242, as well as the reservations they raised regarding any infraction of Resolution 242, is the most important development we have noticed.

The prime minister also briefly referred to the affair of Andrew Young's resignation.

Among other things, a proposal has been raised to contact the administration and request that it not dismiss Young, the prime minister noted, but we rejected this proposal out of hand because this could be interpreted as intervening in internal U.S. matters, which is something we desire to avoid at all costs. [end recording]

DETAILS OF ECONOMIC TALKS WITH U.S. DELEGATION REPORTED

TA190904 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 19 Aug 79 p 4 TA

[Text] Various U.S. economic delegations will arrive in Israel to hold talks on possible Israeli-U.S. economic cooperation and advancing mutual investments in specific fields. This has been reported by (Lee Kling), Ambassador Robert Strauss' representative to the joint economic authority talks currently underway in Israel, at the end of the first day of deliberations. Mr (Kling) noted that the first delegation will discuss cooperation in the field of chemistry.

The director general of the Industry, Commerce and Tourism Ministry, Mr Yoram Ziv, who is the head of the Israeli delegation to these talks, emphasized that this year the growth of exports to the United States has been slightly behind the growth to Europe. He said that a more balanced growth should be the goal, mainly in the technological sphere.

The Israeli interministerial delegation has asked the United States for continued customs reliefs on Israeli jewelry, leather clothing and various chemical products and has also submitted requests for reductions on 15 additional items, including citrus fruits and various food products. It has also asked that the U.S. administration examine the possibility of increasing the sales of Israeli civilian products to the U.S. defense system.

The members of the U.S. delegation, including the under secretary of state for economic affairs and the secretary of the Senate Middle East subcommittee have expressed great interest in cooperation between U.S. and Israeli companies in industrial research and development.

U.S. ENVOY STRAUSS' DEPARTURE REMARKS REPORTED

TA201248 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 20 Aug 79 TA

[Text] What will U.S. Ambassador Robert Strauss be reporting back to Washington? Ever since yesterday evening it has been widely said that he may well recommend calling off the American initiative on the new UN Middle East resolution. But Strauss himself is adamant that no one knows what he has to say to the President at present. He made the point before leaving for home from Ben-Gurion Airport this morning.

[Strauss--begin recording] This has been an interesting trip for me. If ever I had any doubt about the strong ties between our two great democracies they certainly were dispelled by this trip and if ever I had any doubt about their being two great free societies, they too are dispelled as I read what took place while I was here.

I read this morning in a couple of the newspapers that I was stunned with what I found here and let the record reflect that I haven't been stunned in many years. It has been many years since I was stunned.

I also was rather amused to read of certain recommendations that I was going to make to my government and I laughingly thought that that was just the opposite from what I would have said. If I were to make recommendations I would recommend them to my government and not to the newspapers or to television, just as your own distinguished ambassador frequently confers with our president and, as he leaves, advises the press that any recommendations that he has to make, if any there be, he will make to his government and not to the press.

What I shall do, of course, is what you would expect me to do and what Prime Minister Begin expects me to do. That is not to recommend but to faithfully report what your prime minister had to say and your foreign minister had to say--the reactions of your government.

I shall go over those carefully with Secretary Vance and if and when we complete that review, and we will, and we have any recommendations, we will, of course, make them to our president.

This has been a good trip for me even though it has not been an easy one. My heart has been warmed by the friendship and manner in which I have been received. I look forward to being back at the prime minister's invitation shortly after 1 September. Thank you very much. [end recording]

MA'ARIV ARTICLE ANALYZES NATURE OF STRAUSS' 'FAILURE'

TA201148 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 20 Aug 79 p 5 TA

[Shmu'el Segev article: "Strauss--The Failure of a Move"]

[Excerpt] Senior Jerusalem sources who tried to sum up the failure of Ambassador Strauss' visit to Israel yesterday reached the conclusion that the basics of the new U.S.-Soviet move were concluded in the Carter-Brezhnev meeting in Vienna at the beginning of the summer. In order to cover up these moves the United States has first preferred to act alone with the Soviet Union remaining in the background for the time being. Two factors have facilitated the U.S. task in this sphere: The illness of the Israeli prime and foreign ministers as well as the PLO's demonstrated weakness in the inter-Arab arena and the operational field. Begin's and Dayan's illnesses lulled the Israeli Government's vigilance, thus further weakening its ability to react. On the other hand, the coolness in the Iraqi-Syrian relations and the Israeli bombardments of Palestinian terrorist concentrations in Lebanon have severely harmed the operational capability of the terrorist organizations driving them to Saudi Arabia's bosom. The terrorist organizations granted a "green light" to Saudi Arabia to act for them in Washington so that a new resolution may be achieved in the UN Security Council, a resolution that will enable their incorporation in the talks without obliging them to declare clearly their recognition of Israel's right to exist.

Thus, "bending" to the Saudi oil pressure as it were, the United States has lately initiated a series of moves on the Palestinian issue: The Kreisky-Brandt meeting with 'Arafat in Vienna, the three meetings held between the U.S. ambassador in Vienna with the PLO representative Isam Satawi, the increased European pressure on Israel, the U.S. encouragement extended to the NEW OUTLOOK editorial board to invite 15 Israeli Knesset members to a Palestinian congress in Washington, and now also the Young affair and Strauss' mission. All these are part of that extensive fabric intended to lead to incorporation of the Palestinians into the peace talks.

The public Soviet support for the contacts between Ambassador Young and the PLO representative in the United Nations proves that these contacts were not held against Moscow's wish or without its knowledge and approval.

Israel's objection to talks with the PLO is well known and understandable, but it is not difficult also to explain the lack of enthusiasm revealed by President as-Sadat in view of the new U.S.-Soviet initiative. Since his visit in Jerusalem nearly 2 years ago and in all the contacts he has had with Israel's leaders since, President as-Sadat never stopped emphasizing the need to include the Palestinians in the peace process. However, now, just as in October 1977, the United States tried to present President as-Sadat with a fait accompli without consulting him prior to initiating its new move in the UN Security Council. In addition to his reservation about the very intention to impose on him a move on an issue which is, after all, closer to his heart than to the U.S. heart, As-Sadat was afraid that the new U.S. initiative will point to President Carter as a better defender of the Palestinian people's cause than Egypt. This would have increased Egypt's distress in the inter-Arab arena and would have been interpreted as a "reward to extremism" in the Middle East. Another factor: As-Sadat sincerely fears an Israeli retaliatory act that will lead to freezing the peace process and suspending the autonomy talks. Such an Israeli move would have been interpreted as a personal failure of As-Sadat who signed the peace treaty with Israel but who has not yet received, in return, either the entire area of the Sinai Desert or autonomy for the Palestinians.

Nonetheless, it will be erroneous of Israel to view the failure of Ambassador Strauss' mission as an end to the affair. First, the United States itself daily declares and repeats that the Palestinians must be included in the peace process. If there is indeed a Soviet-U.S. understanding on this issue it is reasonable to assume that the United States will now try out new ways "to convince" Israel to moderate its positions on the Palestinian issue. Ambassador Strauss will leave Israel on his way back to Washington today and he is going to report to President Carter about the outcome of his talks in Jerusalem and Cairo. According to these reports the United States will reassess its moves and try to formulate a position toward the upcoming debate about the Palestinian issue in the Security Council on Thursday. Even if the United States will finally impose a veto on the Kuwaiti draft resolution on this issue, this will be a forced veto and not a result of self-conviction. Therefore, irrespective of how the United States will vote in the Security Council at the end of the week Israel should make it categorically and unequivocally clear to the United States that in the future too it will not agree to imposition of a move that runs contrary to its national interest. The United States has also undertaken to coordinate moves with Israel and despite Jerusalem's troublesome dependence on Washington it can still foil similar steps in the future as well. The failure of Ambassador Strauss' mission in Jerusalem yesterday bears witness to this.

IDF ATTACKS TARGETS IN SOUTHERN LEBANON 20 AUG

TA201508 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 20 Aug 79 TA

[Text] At about 1600 today Israel Air Force planes attacked terrorist targets in southern Lebanon. All our planes returned safely to their bases. The IDF spokesman reported that the targets attacked are used as terrorist bases for strikes against Israel. Our military correspondent adds that two targets were attacked: One in the area of Ra's al-'Ayn south of Ar-Rashidiyah, and the second in the northern sector of the Fatahland, about 30 kilometers north of Metulla.

KHOMEYNI APPOINTS KHALKHALI TO INVESTIGATE KORDESTAN SITUATION

LD191158 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1130 GMT 19 Aug 79 LD

[Text] Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution, has appointed Hojjat ol-Eslam Sheykh Sadeq Khalkhali to go to Kermanshah to investigate the situation in connection with the rebels and plotters in Kordestan.

Tabataba'i Says 'Seditionists' Active

LD191808 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Aug 79 LD

[Interview by radio correspondent Mahmud Zinati with government spokesman Sadeq Tabataba'i on 19 August, place not specified--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Tabataba'i, please let our listeners hear any new information you may have with regard to the Kordestan issue in the context of the imam's command.

[Answer] On the basis of the imam's command, a number of 45-man groups from the Shiraz air base were ordered to go to Sanandaj to be stationed at the gendarmerie post there. One of these 45-man groups, before reaching the city and because it was a long way away from other groups, was ambushed as it was traveling in a military personnel carrier and was disarmed by certain people. Other groups arrived in the town safely and have been stationed at the gendarmerie post. The assailants retreated in the meantime.

At the same time, a meeting was held at the office of the prime minister this afternoon, in the presence of the chief of staff of the Iranian Islamic Army, the supreme commander of the gendarmerie of the Iranian Islamic Republic and also the chief of the national police. The outcome of this meeting was a statement broadcast on the radio about 30 minutes ago [1355 GMT] to the effect that all those who have completed their national service may, by producing the certificate of completion of national service, register their names at an army garrison or a gendarmerie post so that they may be used as required.

It is also reported that the Iranian-Iraqi border region near Paveh is being controlled by the Revolution Guards. The latest report that has reached us, which is in fact a warning to the nation and dear compatriots, indicates that certain seditionists in Gonbad are busy kindling yet another blaze in that area. They should be warned that the government, the army of the Islamic Republic and the Revolution Guards will confront them with determination and crush them, whatever the cost.

Allow me here to correct a news report that I myself broadcast yesterday in connection with the situation in Paveh. This concerned a report that I had received. It was said yesterday that in the course of trial and reconnaissance operations in the neighborhood of Paveh three helicopters had crashed. This report has been corrected by the public relations office of the army as follows: Two officers, 2d Lt Mohammad Reza Vijdani-Jordan and 2d Lt Ja'far Mahdavi-Malekkolahi, were piloting a helicopter which crashed on Thursday afternoon, and this is the only helicopter that has crashed during the incidents. The burial of these two martyrs, of course, as you have already heard on the Voice of the Islamic Republic, was held with full honors in Kermanshah, and, as far as I can remember, Jordan's body will be transferred to Kerman for burial. The body of the martyr Malekkolahi will be transferred to Tehran.

[Question] I would like to ask you to provide further information regarding the decision by the council of revolution to declare the Democratic Party of Kordestan illegal.

[Answer] At the Cabinet meeting last night, the agenda of which included the reports from Paveh and a review of developments in Kordestan, after a discussion and exchange of views on the situation, the Cabinet reached the conclusion that in all the incidents, the bloodshed, armed attacks, killings and the massacre of women and children, and so forth and so on, the Kordestan Democratic Party was the most important factor and agent in these tragedies. Bearing in mind this party's records and also the fact that the leaders and objectives of this party [word indistinct] with forces outside the country and their activities have been contrary to the interest of the nation and against the interest of the Islamic Republic, and, furthermore, bearing in mind that the efforts made by this party are against Iran's integrity and territorial independence, and they are separatist moves, the Cabinet last night agreed to declare the Kordestan Democratic Party illegal. This decision was submitted to the revolution council, was approved by the council at noon today and was immediately announced. Thus, with effect from today the Kordestan Democratic Party will be declared as defunct.

Khomeyni Statement to Kordestan

LD200908 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0825 GMT 20 Aug 79 LD

[Text] Imam Khomeyni has issued a statement to the people of Kordestan, as follows:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The honorable inhabitants of Kordestan, my dear esteemed friends: Following the victory of the revolution and the declaration of the Islamic Republic, groups hostile to Islam, who are dependent on aliens, have started their activities against the Islamic movement and Islamic Republic. Some of them even openly opposed and boycotted the referendum. You, my brothers, saw that the Kurdish Democratic Party is directly dependent on the United States and Zionism.

On the eve of the Council of Experts session and following the massive march by the Muslims on the occasion of Jerusalem Day, the traitorous leaders of this party deceived the young men and involved them in fratricide.

My Muslim brethren, do not listen to the deceptive propaganda of these enemies of Islam, who want to lead our Muslim country toward infidelity. Do not allow our dear young men to become ensnared by these misled people.

I would like to express my deep gratitude to the esteemed people of Kordestan for adhering to their human and Islamic commitment. I call on them to support the security forces, to arrest the leaders of the [Kurdish Democratic] Party in the region and hand them over to the authorities. They should bear in mind that, by doing so, they will gain the satisfaction of God almighty and the Prophet.

The Kurdish Democratic Party is unofficial and illegal, since it is a party of Satan, therefore, all the inhabitants of Kordestan must fulfill their religious task and forbid their young men from belonging to this party. They must take decisive steps to prevent any plot by these criminals and report their hideouts to the government and the Islamic Party.

I hope that your action will result in God accepting your prayers. In conclusion, I stress that Islam is the only sanctuary for us all and that under its banner all groups will obtain their rights. The tools of foreigners, who see their own as well as their bosses' interests threatened, are fomenting the provocation of the traditionalists; they are now raising the question of Shi'ite and Sunni for the purpose of fratricide, trying to create division among brothers.

In the Islamic Republic, all the Sunni and Shi'ite brethren are side by side; they are all brothers and equals, enjoying equal rights. Anyone making propaganda to the contrary is an enemy of Islam and Iran. Our Kurdish brothers must nip such un-Islamic propaganda in the bud. I pray to God almighty for unity among Muslims and annihilation of the seditionists. God bless you all.

[Signed] Ruhollah Mosavi Khomeyni.

Reaction to Kordestan Events

LD201123 [Editorial Report LD] Tehran Domestic Service in Persian at 1010 GMT on 20 August was heard carrying reportage--live or recorded--on the funeral ceremony in Tehran for Revolution Guards who had been killed in Kordestan. The reporter is heard interviewing some people taking part in the ceremony, including some highly emotional individuals who attack the government and Prime Minister Bazargan for indecisiveness. Some of those interviewed condemn the Kordestan Democratic Party and support Khomeyni. One woman is heard objecting to the policy of weakening the army, thus rendering it unable to take decisive steps in Kordestan or to prevent bloodshed.

Slogans are then heard being chanted by the crowd, saying: "We shall shed the blood of the Kurdish Democratic Party." Other people are heard demanding the execution of Wasemlu and Ezeddin Hoseyni, the two Kurdish leaders. The reportage ends at 1035 GMT.

Democratic Party Attacks Denied

LD201656 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Aug 79 LD

[Text] The government spokesman has strongly denied a report published on the front page of ETTELA'AT today that members of the Democratic Party of Kordestan had attacked Saqqez, Sardasht, Bijar, Zanjan, Maragheh, Takab and Mian Do Ab.

Security Officials' News Conference

LD202135 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 20 Aug 79 LD

[Text] At a news conference with radio and television this afternoon, a number of state and security officials described the country's security problems. At this session, which took the form of a dialog and which had been convened by Sadeq Tabataba'i, the government spokesman, Hashem Sabbaghian, interior minister; General Riahi, defense minister; General Shaker, chief of the combined staff of the Army of the Iranian Islamic Republic; General Daneshvar, commander of the gendarmerie; and General Mostafa'i, chief of the national police of Iran, participated.

At this session, the minister of the interior said: I do not accept the statement that the government does not have the necessary decisiveness.

For, in the era of the revolution, the army has come to the people, and the army's order disintegrated. Thus, the government had to give the army a new order of things in line with the Islamic Republic, (?so that) it could be used in the best manner possible. This new order of things needed time. We are, of course, achieving this gradually, but we have not yet reached the desired target.

General Mostafa'i said of the morale of the police force: With measures adopted for the welfare of the police force and with the welcome which the people are according their police brothers, their morale is very high and they are ready to carry out any duty for the citizens of cities and for the Iranian Islamic revolution.

General Daneshvar, commander of the gendarmerie, also referring to the warrior-like morale of the gendarmerie personnel and said: With Imam Khomeyni's command the morale of the gendarmerie personnel has been reinforced 100 percent.

At this point General Riahi, defense minister, added that the morale of the army personnel, particularly after Imam Khomeyni's command, has been boosted to such an extent that there are more volunteers to be dispatched to disturbed areas and to crush the counterrevolution than needed. In answer to a question as to whether after the incidents in Kordestan there was a probability of disturbances in the country, the defense minister said: The army is always prepared at this point in time and regards the country in a semi-war state. There are numerous internal and external factors which will cause disturbances with their activities also in the future. But we do not want to get involved in direct confrontation with the people unless forced to do so, as was the case in Gonbad when the shooting there ended with a mere ultimatum from the army.

With regard to the dissolved SAVAK, the defense minister said: This organization, formerly known as SAVAK, has been completely destroyed and a new organization, named National Intelligence and Counterintelligence, has replaced it at the Ministry of National Defense with a new cadre and program. I hope we will be able to achieve good results from it.

At this session, local and foreign correspondents raised their questions, to which security officials supplied answers.

Khalkhali Sentences Two Insurgents

LD202056 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 20 Aug 79 LD

[Text] Please pay attention to a report just handed to me: On 18 August 1979 on the imam's orders His Eminence Ayatollah Khalkhali was dispatched to Kordestan region at the head of a mission which includes Seyyed Hoseyn Khomeyni [Ayatollah Khomeyni's son]. Last night they considered the dossier of two people in Kermanshah and delivered the two counterrevolutionary insurgents to the gallows on 19 August 1979. The mission arrived in Paveh at 1400 on 19 August to consider the files of those under arrest.

Kurdish Party Members Executed

LD210652 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0530 GMT 21 Aug 79 LD

[Text] The [word indistinct] of the cleaning-up operation staff in Paveh reported minutes ago that Hojjat Ol-Islam Khalkhali, the Shari'a ruler, and his companions, who came to Paveh yesterday, after inspecting all the damaged areas in the city including the hospital--which has been turned into a heartrending scene by the attackers--considered the dossier of the criminal perpetrators of this incident.

After 14 hours of study and deliberation, they declared the following individuals, who were members of the Democratic Party of Kordestan, as sowers of corruption on Earth and wagers of war on God and God's Prophet, and sentenced them to death. The death sentences were carried out at 0600 hours today, in the same place where the Mojahed brothers and Revolution Guards had been brutally massacred. The names of those executed are as follows:

Bahman 'Ezzati;
Abolqasem Rajvand (?Sarbari);
Hamed Amini;
'Abbas Karimi'
'Abdollah Zare'i'
Mohammad Heydari;
'Ali Shahbaz Behdim Shirin;
Habib Cheraghi; and
Feyzoddin Zia'i.

Bazargan, Khomeyni Discuss Kordestan

LD210722 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0530 GMT 21 Aug 79 LD

[Text] According to a report from the PARS NEWS AGENCY, Mehdi Bazargan, the prime minister of the Provisional Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, accompanied by Maj Gen Hoseyn Shaker, the chief of combined staff of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran; Daryush Foruhar, minister of labor and social affairs; Mo'infar, the supervisor of the plan and budget organization; Sadr, the minister of commerce; and Seyd 'Ali Khamana'i, deputy minister of defense, arrived in Qom at 2000 for a visit and talks. They took part in the breakfast reception held at the residence of Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the Islamic revolution of Iran, and later started talks on important government issues with Imam Khomeyni.

The PARS correspondent in Qom asked the prime minister about his meeting with the imam. The prime minister said:

At this meeting, we discussed the principal issues of the country, especially Kordestan, Kermanshah and Paveh, as well as the country's economy and industries and the television from the viewpoint of programs and administration. The prime minister said about the Kordestan issues: The forces of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran have been stationed throughout the region and the movement of army detachments from Kermanshah toward Kordestan has begun, General Fallahi, the commander of the ground forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, has gone to the region in order to supervise the situation there. Mr Mo'infar, speaking about their visit with the imam, said: Since the state budget has recently been ratified, explanations about the budget, the country's economy and general policy were given to Imam Khomeyni.

Rumored Attacks Denied

LD210906 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0830 GMT 21 Aug 79 LD

[Text] Unfortunately, it has been reported that counterrevolutionary elements have spread the rumor in the towns of Bukan, Saqqez and Banu that the army aircraft are going to bomb these towns: As a result of this, the people have been [word indistin[illegible]ghtened.

The government strongly denies this rumor and regards those spreading it as counter-revolutionary, and assures all the brothers and sisters that the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Army of the Islamic Republic will exert all their power to defend the freedom, lives, property and honor of the people against the counterrevolution and will act decisively and without the slightest negligence in order to do so.

Hoseyni Urges Kurdish Unity

LD171103 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 14 Aug 79 p 3 LD

[Text] Uramanat--Seyyed Ezzedin Hoseyni, the Imam Jomeh of Mahahbad, has issued a message to the people of Uramanat, Javanrud and Paveh, exhorting them to unity.

The text of the message follows:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate; struggling people of Paveh, Uramanat and Javanrud, accept these my greetings. Concerning the crisis in Kordestan and the fact that each day reactionary and opportunist elements are hatching plots, seeking to divide the people and create conflict, it is necessary to neutralize these plots with revolutionary vigilance. This is only possible through the unity of the revolutionary forces, the Muslim people and the working masses of Kordestan.

Therefore, just as you were able to put a stop to intimidation and repression under the satanical regime because of your unity and acts of heroism, and the shedding of the blood of your young men, so now the people of Kordestan expect you, the noble people of Paveh, Uramanat, to confront the reaction with such strength through your unity that no power, or opportunist or antihuman elements will dare to withstand it. When you have done what is necessary, do not allow those who create division, under any pretext, to dissipate this unprecedented opportunity which has occurred for the Kurdish people. To do so would lead to our disgrace before God, the Kurdish people and history, and to our being cursed by future generations.

The Kurdish nation has never been defeated in battle, but only by politics, deception and strife. You should know how your brothers in Marivan, Sanandaj and Mahabad and Sarve, through their unity, crushed the plots of the enemy and threw back the plundering pseudocrusaders. Take as your example the faith and bravery of the people of Kamyaran, who are not far away from you. The nation expects you to be invincible and of lofty purpose, like the mountains which reach to the sky, and to strive for the attainment of the goal of the Kurdish nation, which is autonomy and the right to self-determination within the framework of a prosperous and free Iran.

I appeal to God for the victory of the Kurdish nation.

[Signed] Seyyed Ezzedin Hoseyni.

TEHRAN RADIO SOLICITS OPINIONS ON KHOMEYNI'S ARMY ROLE

LD181024 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0915 GMT 18 Aug 79 LD

[Excerpt] Dear Listeners, please pay attention: In view of the Imam's recent message in which he announces his readiness to accept the post of commander in chief and the recent events, the Voice of the Iranian Islamic Republic [radio] asks you to phone in and give your opinions.

EMBASSY IN U.S. PROTESTS RELEASE OF TWO IRANIANS

LD171140 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 17 Aug 79 LD

[Text] The Embassy of the Iranian Islamic Republic in Washington has strongly protested to the U.S. State and Justice Departments over the release of two Iranian citizens from jail in Los Angeles. The two individuals, Qoli Monfared and Mojtaba Hoseyni, are accused of embezzling 400 million rials from the workers' welfare funds.

The Iranian Government had previously notified all countries about the two individuals through Interpol. On their arrival at Los Angeles airport, Monfared and Hoseyni were arrested by customs officers. Each claimed to have brought in with them about $9,000. However, following the customs officers' investigations, it transpired that the actual sum was many times more than the amount they claimed.

The protest lodged by the Iranian Embassy is based on the fact that following the arrest of the two, it notified the State Department; moreover, Iran's official representative in San Francisco informed the court that the accused had to be returned to Iran and tried there. According to U.S. regulations, the accused are charged with presenting forged documents to the customs officials carrying (?illegal) foreign exchange and violating other U.S. laws.

A statement issued by the Iranian Embassy says that it appears that the reason that the U.S. court refused to put the two on trial was because it thought that once they had been convicted, they would have to be extradited and that their return to Iran would have been tantamount to their execution.

The statement concludes: Considering that anti-Iranian propaganda is rather extensive, the court's action cannot be construed as a positive step.

It ought to be pointed out that the United States is one of the countries which has always given asylum to criminals and antinational elements who flee their countries; it even gives them protection in various ways.

TEHRAN SEES LOOMING U.S. INVOLVEMENT IN DOMESTIC POLITICS

LD201340 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1245 GMT 20 Aug 79 LD

[Station commentary]

[Text] Dear brothers and sisters, considering our country's geographical and strategic position, the fact that there is the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormoz--this jugular vein of the Western economy--on the one side, and on the other a long common border with Russia--America's international rival--the United States fully realizes that its direct military interference in Iran would involve the threat of cutting the West's vital jugular vein--the oil--on the one side, and confrontation with the USSR and even the start of the Third World War, on the other.

Moreover, having the experience of Vietnam and the liberated countries, imperialism knows quite well that its direct military involvement would not only not serve its interests, but would serve to give momentum to and season the people's liberation movement and result in its more decisive victory.

Taking cognisance of all this and the fact that the heightened revolutionary movement in Iran might culminate in turning the region into a revolutionary center and the cutting off of the Western lifeline in the entire Middle East region, we see that imperialism is left with no alternative but to mobilize all its capabilities and might in order to create domestic discord and an atmosphere of fear and intimidation, so that it might prevent awareness and our revolution's progress.

What do you think? If the United States does not resort to such measures, then what alternative is there? Is there any other choice left to it? What is more important than creating division under the present circumstances for SAVAK networks, which according to available evidence, are restored and are active quite seriously? The point of interest is that these discord and divisions are taking place under conditions when our people are engaged in holding their constituent assembly and reviewing the draft constitution, when by marking the international Jerusalem day, as proposed by Imam Khomeyni, they dealt a severe blow to imperialism and Zionism.

SYRIA'S KHADDAM ADDRESSES TEHRAN RALLY 17 AUGUST

LD171334 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 17 Aug 79 LD

[Speech by Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam at Jerusalem Day rally during Friday prayers at Tehran University--live, in Arabic followed by Persian translation]

[Text] In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate: Sons of the great revolution, it gives me great pleasure to participate in this great day, Jerusalem Day, on behalf of steadfast Syria and in the name of its leader, President Hafiz al-Asad. It also gives me pleasure to convey to you and to the leader of your revolution, Imam Ayatollah Ruhollah Musavi Khomeyni [prolonged cheering] the loftiest greetings and appreciations of the people of Syria. [cheering] It is indeed a great event that the fraternal Iranian nation is celebrating Jerusalem Day as a mark of the Iranian revolution's resolve to struggle shoulder to shoulder with the Arabs and Muslims so that the third holy place may be liberated and so that the Palestinian people may retrieve their rights in their entirety in Palestine and so that the Arabs may retrieve their occupied territories. It may be one of the most salient phenomena at this historic juncture that the Iranian revolution has triumphed and declared its commitment to the Palestine issue as one of its own main issues at a time when the ruler of Egypt has betrayed the Arabs and Muslims and the Palestine issue.

Indeed, we should register with great appreciation the fact that the victory of the revolution in Iran was an important factor in the balance of forces in the region and one of the important positive factors pertaining to our struggle against the Zionist entity in Palestine.

Iran's confrontation of Zionism and imperialism, given the fact that the former defunct regime was a cornerstone of the plans of U.S. imperialism, this historic stand adopted by the Iranian revolution is a factor for an important change in the field of battle against Zionism and imperialism and against the treachery instituted by the ruler of Egypt.

The triangle of aggression and machination, represented by the United States, Zionism and As-Sadat's regime, following the Camp David agreements and the U.S.-Israeli treaty of treachery, sought to liquidate the Palestine issue in an attempt to consolidate the Israeli occupation, to impose U.S. influence in the area and large parts of the world and to break up the region.

But we stood up with faith in the justice of our cause and our right to liberate the land and to retrieve our rights, and with every resolution (?we can muster) we will struggle until victory is achieved.

Indeed, our nation which faces aggression and bears the burden of resistance, is resolved to pay the price of liberty, dignity and honor until it realizes victory or achieves the honor of martyrdom. Martyrdom achieved along the path of liberation remains the aim of all the compatriots; life is meaningless without dignity, without liberty and honor.

O masses of the revolution, the triangle of aggression wanted to delude the world that the Camp David agreements bring peace for the region thanks to the entanglement by the ruler of Egypt in signing the treaty of ignominy and subjugation. What peace is it that rests on the liquidation of the Palestine issue and its deprivations particularly of the holy city of Jerusalem? What peace is it that keeps the Palestine people as refugees without a homeland? What peace is that that keeps the occupation intact and reneges on rights and imposes defeat and ignominy? What are they doing in southern Lebanon under the umbrella of which Lebanese villages and hamlets and Palestinian camps are destroyed?

The Camp David agreements constitute a declaration of an alliance linking the United States, the Zionist entity and the traitor As-Sadat; and they would be making a mistake if they thought that As-Sadat is capable of becoming a gendarme who would protect their interests, would realize their ambitions? A man who was incapable of defending Egypt's honor and its dignity will not amount to anything more than a puny tool which will be smashed by the people of Egypt just as you have crushed the idol in Iran.

O sons of the revolution, in the name of our people in Syria and in the name of its leader, President Hafiz al-Asad, I extend gratitude to the leaders of the Iranian revolution, to Imam Khomeyni [prolonged cheering] for adopting the historic decision to observe Jerusalem Day; and this decision was no surprise for us since we know full well the revolution's commitment to the Palestine issue and support for the Arabs in the struggle against Zionism. We knew your leadership for years through the struggle against ignomy and despotism and we had bridges of contact with it thanks to our brother, Imam Musa as-Sadr.

In conclusion, I must emphasize to you that the sons of Syria are continuing the struggle until they achieve victory or receive the honor of martyrdom. We beseech God to grant you victory soon. Peace and God's mercy and blessings be upon you. [prolonged cheering]

Tabataba'i Comments on Talks

LD171254 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 17 Aug 79 LD

[Interview granted by Iranian Government spokesman Sadeq Tabataba'i to Tehran radio--recorded, date and location not specified]

[Text] [Question] Mr Tabataba'i, could you please comment on the talks which took place between Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Prime Minister Bazargan and Foreign Minister Yazdi?

[Answer] The meeting held in the presence of the prime minister dealt with general aspects as well as basic issues between the two countries. As far as their common domestic and foreign approaches are concerned, Syria is (?pleased) with Iran's revolution. It believes that the victory of the Iranian Islamic revolution is a victory for all the oppressed Muslims of the region. Mr Khaddam said: We consider your victory as our victory and your progress as our progress. [passage indistinct]

After Prime Minister Bazargan left the meeting, talks started on [word indistinct] and the fundamental foreign policies of the two countries and their common grounds were discussed. Within this framework, the common roles the two countries should adopt at the Havana summit as well as the issues which will be raised there were also discussed. Among the issues were the question of Palestine, UN Resolution 242, the question of North and South Africa and the Middle East.

In the second round of talks with the Syrian foreign minister, other issues concerning the two countries--Iran's international policy, the question of liberation movements and the common approach adopted by the two countries, as well as other issues, including Israel and south Lebanon--were discussed.

In the meeting held between the Syrian information minister and Dr Minatchi [minister of national guidance], it was agreed that the SYRIAN ARAB NEWS AGENCY will set up an office in Tehran; similarly, it was agreed that PARS will open an office in Damascus. Furthermore, talks were held on [words indistinct]. Exchanges of information and films, and radio-telephonic links were also discussed and agreed upon. Also considering the international and Zionist anti-Iranian propaganda, the Syrian information minister stated that his country is prepared to make pro-Iranian propaganda throughout the world through its offices and facilities. [passage indistinct]

[Question] One of the most important topics discussed with the Syrian foreign minister concerned the common policy to be adopted by the two countries at Havana. Could you please comment on this topic?

[Answer] Among the topics to be discussed in Havana are the problem of the Middle East, the question of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty--though it could not be called peace, for what As-Sadat has done is not peace; it is surrender to Israel. At present, the countries of the region attach great significance to the (?revolution) in Iran. Therefore, this is going to be raised at Havana summit. [passage indistinct]

One of the issues which shall definitely be raised in Havana will be the question of the alinement or nonalinement of countries. The meaning of alinement and nonalinement will be raised. The question of the member countries and whether they can retain their membership will also be discussed. Moreover, the policies which ought to be pursued by the participating countries vis-a-vis the two superpowers will also be discussed; these superpowers are the two Eastern and Western world-devourers.

[Question] What about economic issues? [passage indistinct]

COUNCIL OF EXPERTS ELECTS PERMANENT PRESIDIUM

LD191828 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Aug 79 LD

[Text] The council for the final review of the draft constitution this afternoon continued its work. At this session, which opened at 1700, the presidium of the council was elected as follows:

Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, elected chairman with 40 votes;
Dr Seyyed Mohammad Hoseyn Beheshti, elected vice chairman with 40 votes;
Dr Seyyed Hasan Ayat, elected secretary with 24 votes;
Dr Mahmud Rohani, elected secretary with 38 votes;
Dr Hasan 'Azodi, elected secretary with 37 votes.

After the election of the permanent presidium, Ayatollah Montazeri thanked the representatives and went on to say: The constitution is the foundation of state policy, and I hope we will be able to approve a constitution which will be 100 percent Islamic and will incorporate the rights of all the people, a constitution which will be both Islamic and progressive.

Following that a number of representatives spoke in favor of and against the internal regulation of the council sessions, and also made certain proposals. As a result, it was decided to elect a five-member committee to prepare the session's internal regulations to be submitted to the open session of the council next Tuesday for voting.

FORMER PRIME MINISTER BAKHTIAR INTERVIEWED BY AFP

NC191233 Paris AFP in English 1226 GMT 19 Aug 79 NC

[Text] Paris, Aug 19 (AFP)--Former Iranian Premier Shahpur Bakhtiar today accused Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni of ordering massacres in Kordestan that are "even more cruel" than massacres ordered by ousted Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi last year.

Mr. Bakhtiar, the last prime minister appointed by the shah, also called on current Iranian Premier Mehdi Bazargan to resign if he did not wish to be mixed up in "this slaughter".

Events in recent days had shown that Iran was a dictatorship and that the ayatollah, like the shah, spoke of ordering and demanding and brutally sought to annihilate all resistance and all opposition, he told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE in an exclusive interview here.

Iran was a country that was "totally split, economically bound for bankruptcy and socially prey to perpetual strife", he said.

It was a country where Ayatollah Khomeyni was not "ashamed" to ask the army to intervene against Kurds fighting for autonomy in the town of Paveh and make it "commit massacres that were even more cruel that those ordered by the former sovereign last year", he added.

The crushing of such and such province or the abolition of such and such party solved nothing, he noted.

Mr. Bakhtiar, who last week predicted that the Khomeyni regime would fall within five or six months because of its own "infinite stupidity", today said the ayatollah would not remain in power beyond next January.

That time limit was indispensible if Iran were to remain one nation, he said.

Mr. Bakhtiar said he would return to Iran once "a minimum of order, legality and security was restored". His job would be to restore the rule of law, organise political parties with a sense of nationalism and democracy, hold a referendum, set up a neutral government and start rebuilding the economy.

OPPOSITION GROUPS LAUNCH PARIS-BASED NEWSPAPER

LD200821 Paris LE MONDE in French 17 Aug 79 p 4 LD

[Unattributed report: "Secular Opposition Paper Published in Paris"]

[Text] Several secular opposition groups represented in Paris by various emigres headed by Shapour Bakhtiar are publishing as of 20 August a daily titled NAMEH RUZ (DAILY LETTER). Journalist and former Iranian television producer Djanad Alamir is one of the main people behind it.

Published in Persian in eight roneotyped pages, NAMEH RUZ plans to take the place of the papers banned--such as AYANDEGAN--or censored in Iran. It apparently already has 2,000 subscribers in Iran and about 5,000 in various European countries. An English-language edition will be published starting in the fall in the United States.

The organizers of the new daily state that they have received support from various secular groups, including Matin Daftari's Democratic National Front.

SHARI'ATMADARI DISCUSSES SPLIT IN PARTY

LD171105 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 14 Aug 79 p 2 LD

[Text] In a radio and television interview with the representative of the Voice and Profile of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Khorasan, His Great Eminence Ayatollah Shari'atmadari has given his views on the present situation in the country. His great eminence said of the resignation of a group of founders of the MPRP: "This resignation should be officially announced. Apart from one or two cases if other resignations have been made, they have not been announced and are not official. Of course, even if there has been a mass resignation, this has no effect on the party, which has 2 or 3 million members. Active members may choose a new party leader. I gave my approval to the founders because I knew them to be good men, and I still approve of them."

On the disturbances in different parts of the country, Ayatollah Shari'atmadari said:

"They ought to think of Iran, for Iran is now afflicted by many problems, and everyone should be thinking how they might safeguard the country. Of course, when these difficulties have abated, then the other problems can be looked into. As regards autonomy: Of course, if this is in the framework of remaining Iranian, it can be planned.

At present, attention should be given to the country's borders and independence. Those other problems should be relegated to second place; these problems do not belong exclusively to any province. If autonomy is given to a province now, this will automatically spread to other provinces. Is it right that at this time, when the government has become an Islamic government and when we may all be united, for there to be this sort of division between the provinces? But then, these are problems which must be discussed in the majles."

In reply to a question asking his views on the Komitehs, with regard to the resumption of activities by the security forces, Ayatollah Shari'atmadari said:

"If these security forces attain a position whereby they are able to maintain security, then the Komitehs should either be dissolved or amalgamated with these forces, but in certain provinces the government authorities do not have such power, and security is uncertain. For this reason, in spite of some complaints, the existence of the Komitehs is essential."

Speaking on freedom of the press, Ayatollah Shari'atmadari said:

"Of course the press should be free, and there should be freedom to write, but the press should not oppose the foundations of the state or the Islamic Government.

'NATIONAL SALVATION' GROUP TO BE FORMED

LD171317 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 14 Aug 79 p 2 LD

[Text] General Amir-Rahimi, former commander of the military police in Tehran, in a telephone conversation with the ETTELA'AT political desk journalist said:

"The situation is such that it is now necessary to think about the salvation of the country. The situation in the provinces, and even in Tehran, cannot be tolerated and thought must be given to saving the country. A 'national salvation group' is to be formed and both military and civilian groups who were in the revolution will take part. In order to declare its existence officially and state its aims, a press conference will be held at its headquarters next week. Concerning the founding members of this group, Amir Rahimi said: "You all know these individuals: They are famous and have a good reputation, and they are most concerned over existing conditions."

On the subject of whether he had been offered another post, and if he would accept a post if one were offered to him, he said:

"I have been offered a post, both directly and indirectly, but I would only accept if I had total authority. The reason I was removed from office was that I spoke too much. Where in the world does a general get dismissed for talking to the people? If this is how things are, I shall not accept a post in the future."

TEHRAN PROSECUTOR CALLS ON PARTIES, GROUPS TO RETURN WEAPONS

LD200738 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0630 GMT 20 Aug 79 LD

[Text] The following statement was issued today by the prosecutor general of the Tehran Islamic Revolution Court:

In the name of God: In response to numerous requests made by the courageous Iranian people, this is to warn all political parties and groups who in the course of the revolution and assault on garrisons and military buildings obtained possession of weapons and arms made for aggression and attack, and whose possession is only within the qualification of the army, the Corps of the Revolution Guards and military--especially those groups whose nature and policies are identified as being contrary to the wishes and path of the nation and Islam--and who have been keeping these weapons in warehouses, hideouts, houses and buildings they have illegally occupied, that they must immediately hand over these weapons to the Tehran Islamic Revolution Court and evacuate these buildings. Should they fail to do so, orders for their arrest will be issued and they will be tried in Revolution Court and most severely punished.

[Signed] Prosecutor general of Tehran Islamic Revolution Court Ahmad Azari Qomi.

WARRANTS ISSUED FOR IRANIAN JOURNALISTS

LD171123 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 14 Aug 79 p 2 LD

[Text] A warrant has been issued by the Islamic Republic Tehran prosecutor for the arrest of Hedayatollah Matin-Daftari, member of the executive board of the National Democratic Front, and Reza Marzban, editor-in-charge of the newspaper PAYGHAM-E EMRUZ. In the case of Matin-Daftari, this followed the bloody demonstrations which took place last Sunday at the university and in front of the prime minister's office. For Reza Marzban it was connected with the contents of the newspaper PAYGHAM-E EMRUZ. The prosecutor said the warrants were issued because of complaints from those injured in the incident at Tehran University and disruption and division created by PAYGHAM-E EMRUZ. Another charge which led to the warrant for the arrest of the editor of PAYGHAM-E EMRUZ was the direct insult in the newspaper to the leader of the revolution, Imam Khomeyni.

Meanwhile, a group of those arrested in the demonstrations who had been found carrying handgrenades and firearms were sent today to the Revolution Court, which has begun to investigate the charges against them.

PATROL CONFRONTS, ARRESTS 13 'OUTLAWS' IN ZAHEDAN

LD191220 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 19 Aug 79 LD

[Text] According to our correspondent's report from Zahedan, a patrol of the Revolution Guards Corps last night confronted two armed outlaw groups in Zahedan. Following some shootings, the corps arrested 13 of the outlaws and seized a considerable quantity of weapons. The arms, along with the accused, were immediately sent to the Revolution Court in Zahedan.

MORE FORMER OFFICIALS EXECUTED IN ESFAHAN

LD201140 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1100 GMT 20 Aug 79 LD

[Excerpts] The Islamic Revolution Court for Esfahan has ended the trial of three officials of the Shahreza police department. The following sentences were issued:

Rahmacollah Davari was sentenced to death for sowing corruption on earth and having waged war against God.

Mohammad Esma'il Jahanbakhsh was also sentenced to death for sowing corruption on Earth, waging war against God and murder.

(Yadollah Shamsi) was sentenced to life imprisonment for wounding numerous individuals among the strugglers with a bayonet and persecuting the struggling people of Shahreza and [words indistinct]. The sentences issued on the first two were carried out at dawn this morning.

The Islamic Revolution Court in Kermanshah has issued orders for the execution of 'Azizmorad Zolfaqari and Soltanmorad Zolfaqari, two mercenaries of the hated Pahlavi regime active in Sar-e Pol-e Zahab. They were both executed at dawn this morning.

STRIKES, GO-SLOWS BANNED IN ABADAN, KHORRAMSHAHR

LD190743 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0630 GMT 19 Aug 79 LD

[Text] The following statement was issued by the Islamic revolution's public prosecutor of Abadan and Khorramshahr:

In pursuance of the behest of the illustrious leader of the Islamic revolution of Iran, the Imam Khomeyni, pertaining to waging decisive and fierce struggle against counter-revolutionaries and subversive elements, it is hereby announced that as of this date any strike, sit-in, go-slow, hoarding and mutiny against the orders issued from above by any team or group, whether administrative or otherwise, shall be deemed as a counterrevolutionary action, and the transgressors shall be arrested, delivered to Islamic Revolution Courts, and shall receive the severest punishment.

ZANJAN PROSECUTOR GENERAL SHOT, CONDITION SATISFACTORY

LD191158 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 19 Aug 79 LD

[Text] A number of unknown persons shot the prosecutor general of Zanjan at 2400 last night at his residence. He was wounded as a result of the attempt. According to a PARS NEWS AGENCY report, the masked terrorists, knocked on the door of prosecutor general Mojtahedi's home, pretending to be guards, and fired one shot when he opened the door.

The same report adds that the assailants managed to escape. The prosecutor general was later operated on. He is at present in the hospital and his condition is relatively satisfactory.

AFGHANISTAN

ARMED FORCES, REBELS CLASH; HAZARAJAT 'LIBERATED'

BK201651 Hong Kong AFP in English 1606 GMT 20 Aug 79 BK

[By Jean-Francois le Mounier]

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, 20 Aug. (AFP)--Armed clashes broke out among members of the Afghan Army yesterday on the road between Kabul and Tor Kham, near the border with Pakistan, Afghan rebel sources said here today. No details or casualty figures were available.

Rebel sources also said that most of Hazarajat, the region in central Afghanistan populated by Hazara tribesmen, had been "liberated" and a new administration set up.

Reliable sources in Kabul confirmed that an embryo administration was functioning in the Hazarajat region, issuing passes to the **populace.**

Two former ministers under the Afghan monarch, Abdul Wahid Surabi (planning) and I. Lali (industry), were part of the administration, the rebel sources said, adding that governors and deputies had also been named for the provinces.

Fighting was reported by the Afghan National Liberation Front near Ghazni, south of Kabul. Some 800 inhabitants of Katawaz and Soleiman Khil joined rebel forces, the front said.

Rebel groups also reported fighting on Aug. [date indistinct] in the Ma'ruf district, near Kandahar, in southern Afghanistan. Four supply trucks, a 76mm artillery piece and 15 Kalashnikov rifles were said to have been captured by rebel forces.

The conservative religious group Hezbi-Islami said that two officers and three soldiers had been killed in the clashes, and five officers and seven soldiers wounded. Five **soldiers** were taken prisoner.

In a communique, Hezbi-Islami Afghanistan today condemned the new Paiman Itehad Islami Movement grouped people who represent only themselves. [sentence as received]

The name of the movement means "those who have sworn to fight for Islam".

Hezbi-Islami Afghanistan said the movement "is not fulfilling the will and the desire of the Afghan nation, the nation which is fighting against red imperialism."

DEMONSTRATIONS STAGED SUPPORTING TARAKI 17 AUG

GF180830 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 17 Aug 79 GF

[Excerpt] Once again today, thousands of our dear compatriots held huge and glorious rallies in the capital and certain provinces while raising their fists in support of the declaration by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and condemning the reactionary circles of Pakistan and the narrow-minded religious fanatics of Iran.

During these rallies, held in various parts of the country, our toilers, carrying the glorious national flags and revolutionary banners, passed before the portraits of the great and talented leader of Afghanistan Nur Mohammad Taraki, secretary general of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and chairman of the Revolutionary Council, and shouted slogans such as: Long live Nur Mohammad Taraki, the great leader of the people of Afghanistan! May the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan be forever victorious! May the Khalqi system in the country last forever! Death to the enemies of the people of Afghanistan! Death to devil's advocates and pseudo-Muslims! Down with the reactionary elements of Iran and Pakistan!

CLERGY AND ULEMA SUPPORT TARAKI AND REVOLUTION

GF180755 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 17 Aug 79 GF

[Text] Today and yesterday, the ulema, spiritual leaders, preachers and imams of various areas convened the General Assembly of the ulema and issued a declaration supporting and confirming the Afghanistan revolution.

The ulema, preachers, clergy and imams of mosques, also issued certain resolutions in this respect expressing their total affinity and full support for strengthening the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan under the leadership of the esteemed leader of the Afghan people, Nur Mohammad Taraki.

At the beginning of these meetings, several verses from the holy Koran were read, after which the ulema, preachers and imams of mosques delivered sermons and speeches. In the course of their sermons and speeches, they expressed their support and endorsement of the beloved leader of the people, Nur Mohammad Taraki, secretary general of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, as the Muslim and religious master leader of the Afghanistan Islamic society. They reiterated the fact that our beloved leader was brought up in a Muslim and toiling family; that with his lofty character and praiseworthy morality he has always been the supporter and defender of the interests of the Muslim and toiling people of Afghanistan; that he has always been proudly on the front lines of the holy war [jihad] and the struggle against bloodshed, tyranny and social decay; and that he would therefore be recognized as the country's leader in the righteous jihad and battles of our people against [words indistinct]. He leads and guides our homeland with pride and glory.

Citing the noble characteristics of the Afghan revolution, which is the guarantor of the Khalqi and Muslim interests of this country, the preachers stated that the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, under the leadership of our beloved leader, is the protector and supporter of the dignified rights of Islam, all actions taken by the government are Khalqi, and all eight-point decrees by the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan are in accordance with the foundations of the holy religion of Islam and [words indistinct].

The religious leaders also stated that following the victory of the Great Sawr Revolution, we have been fully aware and convinced that whatever steps have been taken or will be taken in the future by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan under the leadership of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and under the wise guidance of the beloved leader of the Afghan people, Nur Mohammad Taraki, secretary general of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and chairman of the Revolutionary Council, who is the supporter and defender of the Islamic community and servant of Islam, are all in accordance with the Islamic Shari'a.

Thus, in accordance with the Koranic verse--follow the will of God and His prophet--it is the duty of all members of the Islamic community to recognize the great leader of the Afghan people, Nur Mohammad Taraki, as the commander and master leader of the revolutionary Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

In the course of their sermons and other speeches, the ulema and preachers condemned the accusations made by certain enemy camps against the Afghan people, and following the Koranic verses and as an affirmation of the declaration by the Islamic ulema of Afghanistan, they declared a holy war against those traitors who have left the country. They declared that all these traitors and stooges of Afghanistan's foreign enemies, rebels against the government and Afghanistan's Islamic community leadership, must be murdered; and it is the religious and national duty of every member of our society to eliminate them all.

Further Support

GF200740 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 19 Aug 79 GF

[Text] Ulema, clergy, religious preachers and imams of mosques in Faryab, Qandehar, Nowzad District and Helmand Province, as well as the Jangi Qal'e and Qahra, expressed their full support and total affirmation of the declaration by the society of Afghanistan ulema.

According to reports from BAKHTAR correspondents from these provinces, ulema and preachers in the course of their sermons, in accordance with the Koranic verse--Thou shalt obey God and His prophet--declared Nur Mohammad Taraki, secretary general of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and president of the Revolutionary Council, the master leader of the Islamic society of Afghanistan and said that our beloved leader has a humanistic character, is a true Muslim and a protector of the interests of the people of Afghanistan.

At these meetings, the clergy and preachers condemned the plots, intrigues and accusations of the people's enemies and the enemies of the Great Sawr Revolution. Referring to the verses of the Koran and the words of the Islamic Prophet, they declared that a holy war against these traitors was a religious duty and that they should be assassinated for rebelling against our beloved and revolutionary leader, the master leader of the Afghan society.

In confirmation of the declaration by the Society of Afghanistan Ulema, the clergy and above-mentioned ulema stated that it is the religious and national duty and responsibility of every member of the Islamic society in Afghanistan to line up for a holy war to annihilate and destroy the various enemies of the people of Afghanistan, who are the devil's advocates and pseudo-Muslim foreigners.

In the course of their sermons, the clergy, ulema and imams of mosques condemned from the viewpoint of Islamic Shari'a the shameful acts of the Afghan people's enemies, who in this sacred land commit acts such as murdering children, burning mosques and similar things, and said they felt they were deserving of the most severe punishment.

BAKHTAR correspondents add that the ulema and preachers, during these meetings held today and yesterday in the above-mentioned areas, issued resolutions declaring their full support for and total affinity with our Khalqi government under the leadership of the great teacher of the people, Nur Mohammad Taraki, secretary general of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and president of the Revolutionary Council.

INDIA

SINGH, MRS GANDHI MEET PRESIDENT REDDY 20 AUG

BK201603 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 Aug 79 BK

[Text] This evening Mr Charan Singh called on the president, accompanied by the law minister, Mr Kacker, and the external affairs minister, Mr S.N. Mishra.

Speaking to newsmen later, they asserted that the president is bound by the Cabinet's advice [to dissolve the Parliament and order midterm polls].

Mrs Indira Gandhi also met Mr Sanjiva Reddy. Her party's parliamentary board is now examining the government's recommendation to dissolve the Lok Sabha.

The former law minister, Mr Shanti Bhushan, also had a meeting with the president. He pleaded with the president that Mr Charan Singh has no constitutional authority to recommend dissolution of the Lok Sabha. Therefore, the president should not accept the advice.

SINGH ALLEGES BLACKMAIL BY GANDHI GROUP ON SPECIAL COURTS

BK201638 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 Aug 79 BK

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Charan Singh, has said his government resigned because he did not want to yield to what he called blackmail by authoritarian forces which wanted withdrawal of certain cases before the special courts.

In a statement issued in New Delhi this evening, he said they had no choice but to reject support from quarters which sought interference in the normal functioning of the judiciary.

Mr Charan Singh mentioned the specific request for the withdrawal of the government's notification declaring the Kissa Kursi Kaa case [involving Sanjay Gandhi in burning of original print of satire film "Tale of Power"] an offense under the Special Courts Act.

He made it clear he did not wish to compromise because there are things more valuable than mere prime ministership.

POLITICAL PARTIES DIFFER ON MIDTERM POLL SUGGESTION

BK201648 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 Aug 79 BK

[Text] Dissident Congress members of Parliament in a statement said the Cabinet decision [advising the president to order a midterm poll] was wrong. The Congress ministers had no mandate from the party for taking such a decision.

In a statement, two Republican MP's also opposed the suggestion for a midterm poll.

On the other hand, the Politburo of the Communist Party-Marxists has said a midterm poll is the only way out of the current political situation. They made it clear that party MP Jyotirmoy Bosu's reported statement favoring the formation of a government by the Janata Party does not represent the party's policy. Mr Jyotirmoy Bosu later in a statement said he did not state that the Janata should help to form a new government.

The forward block and the AIADMK [All India Anna-Dravida Munnetra Kazgham] were also of the view that there is no alternative to a midterm poll.

Meanwhile, Mr Jagjivan Ram has claimed an absolute majority in the Lok Sabha and has said he is in a position to prove it when called upon to do so. He told newsmen that his party's strength has reached 225 and more members are extending support to it. In replying to a question, he said it can be a coalition or a single-party government.

The chairman of the Janata-S, Mr Raj Narain, said Mr Charan Singh had decided last night himself to submit the resignation. In a midterm poll democratic, socialist and secular forces will come together to form a single party, he added.

Further Reaction to Midterm Poll

BK201650 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 Aug 79 BK

[Text] The Revolutionary Socialist Party leader in the Lok Sabha, Mr Tridib Chaudhri, has said a midterm poll is the only possible solution to the present political impasse.

The Uttar Pradesh chief minister, Mr Banarasi Das, said in the present political situation the best course will be to go to the electorate.

The leader of the Socialist group, Mr Madhu Limaye, said personally he would have preferred that Mr Charan Singh faced the debate in Parliament.

The former railway minister, Mr Madhu Dandavate, appealed to those members of the Janata Party who had left it to return to the parent body and strengthen it.

The outgoing health minister, Mr Rabi Ray, said Mrs Gandhi and communal forces had conspired to wreck the constitutionally formed government.

The Congress Parliamentary Party secretary, Mr Unikrishnan, said Mrs Gandhi has once again proved that she does not mean to change her style of functioning, nor has she come to believe in the ideological framework of socialism, secularism and democracy.

Reddy Continues Consultations

BK210334 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 21 Aug 79 BK

[Text] Intense political activity is on in the capital following the resignation of the Charan Singh ministry. The president will continue his consultations with political leaders and constitutional experts before taking any decision on the advice of the Charan Singh Cabinet for the dissolution of the Lok Sabha and order [as heard] a midterm poll. Leaders of various political parties are expected to call on the president and give their views. The Janata Party president, Mr Chandra Shekhar, and the Jammu and Kashmir chief minister, Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah, are scheduled to meet him today. The noted constitutional expert, Mr Palkhivala, is also expected to call on him in the afternoon.

Earlier Mr Palkhivala and another eminent jurist, Mr M.C. Chagla, had expressed the view that the president is not bound by the advice given by the Charan Singh government.

The former law minister, Mr Shanti Bhushan, and Mr Ram Jethmalani, Member of Parliament, have also challenged the right of the government to recommend a midterm poll. Mr K. Santhanam, a former member of the constituent assembly, has however said the president should dissolve the Lok Sabha and order fresh elections as soon as possible.

In a memorandum to the president on behalf of the government, the law minister, Mr Kacker, pointed out that under Article 74 of the Indian Constitution, the Cabinet advice is binding on the president. He also referred to a number of court cases and conventions observed in other countries like Britain in support of his plea.

Defending the Cabinet advice, eight leaders belonging to the Janata-S and the Socialist group have said in an uncertain situation like this there is no other alternative but to consult the people, who are the ultimate authority. In a joint statement in New Delhi they said that although Mrs Gandhi had earlier declared her support as unconditional, she started mounting pressures on the coalition. Her demand was the withdrawal of the government's notification declaring the Kissa Kursi Kaa [satire film "Tale of Power"] case an offense under the special courts act. The government decided on a midterm poll rather than submitting to this blackmail. The statement was signed by Mr Raj Narain, Mr Madhu Limaye, Mr George Fernandes, Mr Rabi Ray, Mr Fazlur Rahman, Mr Zulfiqar Ullah, Mr Karpuri Thakur and Mr C. Bhattacharaya.

The external affairs minister, Mr Mishra, has asserted that the president is bound to accept the advice of the Cabinet for dissolution of the Lok Sabha and the holding of a midterm poll. He told a news conference in New Delhi that over 300 MP's, including those belonging to the Congress-I, are in favor of a midterm poll.

Politicians Stake Out Positions

BK210403 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 21 Aug 79 BK

[Text] In a joint statement yesterday, leaders of five left parties have expressed the opinion that a fresh mandate from the people in the form of a midterm poll is the only solution to the present crisis. This statement was signed by leaders of the CPI-M [Communist Party of India-Marxists], the CPI, the RSP [Revolutionary Socialist Party], the Forward Bloc, and the PWP [Peasants and Workers Party].

In another development last night the Congress president, Mr Swaran Singh, announced that his party will continue its endeavor to strengthen its alliance with the Janata-S and other partners of the coalition government. Mr Swaran Singh also said that in the alliance the Congress had functioned in a spirit of cooperation and mutual understanding.

Twelve Congress MP's, who described themselves as Congress-Real, have written to the president that the prime minister has no constitutional rights to advise the dissolution of the Lok Sabha as he has not sought the confidence of the House. This was announced by the convenor of the group, Mr K. Suryanarayana.

More Political Maneuvering

BK210657 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0630 GMT 21 Aug 79 BK

[Text] The political atmosphere continues to be uncertain, with the president, Mr Sanjiva Reddy, still to announce his decision whether or not to accept the prime minister, Mr Charan Singh's, advice to order a midterm poll.

Hectic activity by political parties is continuing. Leaders are divided in their views. While some favor a midterm poll, others are in favor of Mr Jagjivan Ram, leader of the opposition in the Lok Sabha, forming a government.

The Janata Party chief, Mr Chandra Shekhar, had a 30-minute meeting with President Reddy this morning. Later, talking to newsmen, Mr Chandra Shekhar said that he discussed the current political situation with the president. He claimed that the Janata Party is in a position to form a stable government with the help of others and is prepared to prove its majority on the floor of the Lok Sabha as soon as it is called upon to do so. Mr Chandra Shekhar expressed the view that the president should invite the Janata Party to form a government since it is the single largest party in the Lok Sabha.

The Congress-I Parliamentary Board had an informal meeting this morning at the residence of Mrs Gandhi to take stock of the latest political situation. Besides members of the board, the meeting was attended by several Congress-I leaders now present in the capital. Talking to newsmen, the party general secretary, Mr A.R. Antule, said the board has been discussing all aspects of the situation. These include the issue of midterm poll and also the question of extending support to Mr Jagjivan Ram in his efforts to form the government.

MRS GANDHI CALLS ON PRESIDENT REDDY 21 AUG

BK210750 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 21 Aug 79 BK

[Text] The Congress-I president, Mrs Indira Gandhi, had a 30-minute meeting with the president, Mr Sanjiva Reddy, today. Later, approached by newsmen, she declined to disclose the nature of the talks.

She was accompanied by Mr C.N. Stephen and Mr Kamlapati Tripathi and the Andhra Pradesh chief minister, Dr Chenna Reddy.

Mr Stephen told newsmen that they discussed with the president all aspects of the present situation including constitutional aspects. Consequently, they put forth some proposal. He did not give details.

CONGRESS-I LEADERS MEET WITH JAGJIVAN RAM

BK211316 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 21 Aug 79 BK

[Text] Congress-I leader C.N. Stephen and Kamlapati Tripathi had a meeting with Mr Jagjivan Ram today. Mr Chandra Shekhar was present at the meeting.

Later, Mr Stephen described his meeting Mr Jagjivan Ram as part of the consultation to evolve a consensus for resolving the present political crisis.